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Maher, W. J.

1959

Alaska

Catalog: #1473 – 1544

Journal

Species Accounts

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Jan 19 Honeydew (Etter Ranch) Humboldt Co, California
1473 ♂ Lynx — Skin & Skull. Shot by Ben Etter. Wt 28 lbs Stom: full of deer flesh.

Jan 23 Cape Beaufort, Alaska
1472 ♂ Gulo — Coll. Walter Raasmussen — Skeleton. Wt 36½ lb TL 45.5 inch. Tail 14.5"

May 23 Pitmegea River, Alaska.
1473 ♀ Zonotrichia leucophrys wt 24.1 ova 1.5 mm
1474 ♂ Stercorarius parasiticus wt. 539.5, Fat: V Heavy. Testes: 18.1 x 8.3

May 25 Pitmegea River, N. Alaska
1475 ♀ Stercorarius pomarinus wt. 717.0 Fat: Mod. Stom. empty (Lagopus lagopus - skull) (shows wounds Bend R. area)
1476 ♂ " longicaudus. Wt. 322.5, Fat: V. Heavy. Testes: 12 x 1 (damaged)
1477 ♀ " longicaudus wt. 300.5, Fat: Heavy. Stom. - 1 passerine alone: ova 8.8, OD 4.5

June 16 Pitmegea River, N. Alaska
1478 ♂ Microtus oeconomus wt 54.9 Testes 8 mm 174-34-17-11
1479 ♂ " " 51.1 Testes 8 mm 170-30-17-12

June 20 Pitmegea River, N. Alaska
1480 ♀ Microtus oeconomus wt. 32.3 - Wt. Scars 7/6 159-31-16-12

July 2 Pitmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska.
1481 ? Erolia melanotos wt. 20.0
1482 ♀ " " wt. 23.1

July 3
1483 ? Erolia melanotos wt. 14.7

July 9
1484 ♂ Stercorarius parasiticus wt. Testes 3.5 x 1.0
1485 ♀ " pomarinus wt. 619.5 ova 3.7 mm

July 12
1486 ♀ Stercorarius parasiticus wt. 714.0 (pitted at a little by Sid.)

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July 13 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska

1487 ? Eremophila alpestris wt. 18.2

July 16 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska.

1488 ? Stercorarius longicaudus wt. 92.3

July 22 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska

1489 ♀ Stercorarius longicaudus wt. 64.0

July 25

1490 ? Asio flammeus wt. 467.2

July 27

1491 ? Conuropsis carolinensis (Parquets audubi) wt.? found dead on beach, gutted.

1492 ♂ Uria lomvia wt.?, found dead on beach.

July 29 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska.

1493 Juv. ♀ ~~Eremophila alpestris~~ (Pectoral) Erolia melanotus wt. 48.7

July 30

1494 Juv. ♂ Erolia melanotus wt. ~~59.0~~

July 31 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska.

1495 ♀ Phoca hispida (found dead on beach)

1496 ♀ Odobenus rosmarus (found dead on beach)

1497 ? Alopex lagopus (found dead on beach)

1498 ? Vulpes fulva (?) (Skull found along beach 4 ft from H.W. in eroding sand bank)

Aug 10 Petrmegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska

1499 ♂ Rissa tridactyla wt. 305.0 gm. Testes 7X3

June 17 Barrow, Alaska

1500 ♀ Erignathus Harold Otto w/ uterus

1501 ♂ " " " w/ testes

June 19 ~~♀~~ Barrow, Alaska

1502 ♀ " Ed. Hopson w/ uterus

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1503	♀	Eignathus	head only	Ed. Hopson
1504	♀	"	" "	" "
1505	♀	"	w uterus	Ed Hopson
June 25	Barrow, Alaska			
1506	♂	Eignathus	head only	Donald, Ned
1507	♀	"	" "	Horace A.
June 26	Barrow, Alaska			
1508	♂	Eignathus	head only	Ed. Hopson
1509	♀	"	" "	Donald Ned
1510	♂	"	head w bone	Donald Ned
1511	♀	"	head + womb	Donald Ned
1512	♀	"	" only	Ed Hopson
1513	♂	"	head, Testis, bone	Ed Hopson
1514	♂	"	" " "	Ed Hopson
1515	♂	"	" , bone	Donald Ned
June ?	Barrow, Alaska			
1516	♀	Eignathus	head only	Laurence K
1517	♀	Eignathus	head only	Laurence K

(over)

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Trapline specimens, Kaslah River 1959

♯ 31,		A.M.	Line #2 - Tussock-Heath.										
8	♀	~~SA~~	Lem.	2-2.4	36.6	134	~~op.~~	op.	gry	4 mm 3(2-1)	marked not in total	–	
9	♂	SA	Cloth	2-1.6	15.7	116	3	–					to MVZ
5	♂	SA	Cloth	2-3.6	16.6	123	3	~~cl~~	~~Br~~.				
2♯ 1		AM	~~Lem~~	~~2-6.0~~	~~22.1~~	~~106~~							
1	♀	SA	Lem	2-6.0	22.1	106	1	cl	Br.				
2	♀	SA	Cloth.	2-0.8	16.1	121	1			–	–		to MVZ
3	♂	SA.	Lem	2-3.8	21.0	103	3	–					
♯ 2		AM											
24	♂	SA	Lem	2-9.6	19.0	105	4	–					
25	♀	Juv.	Lem	2-8.0	14.3	92	1	cl.	Br.				to MVZ
26	♀	SA	Lem	2-1.4	23.4	110	1	cl.	Br.				
♯ 3		AM											
27	♀	SA	Cloth.	2-2.4	13.6	116	1	cl.	Br.				to MVZ
♯ 1		AM	Line # 1			Upland		dwarf	shrub.				
28	♀	SA	Cloth	1-3.2	17.0	123	1	cl	Br				to MVZ
♯ 2													
29	♂	SA	Lem	1-1.0	18.0	105	3	-					
30	♀(?)	SA	Cloth	1-4.2	14.2	120	(could not find uterus)						
31	♂	A	Lem	1-8.6	30.8	120	5	+					
32	♀	SA	Lem	1-7.2	26.0	109	1	cl.	pelvis ennarked				
33	♂	SA	Lem	1-5.4	21.0	105	4	+					
34	♀(?)	SA	Cloth	1-9.2	14.1	122	(could not find uterus)						to MVZ
35	♀	SA	Lem	1-10.0	28.9	124		cl.	gap		6(3-3)	–	
Sept 3		AM											
36	♂	SA	Lem	1-1.0	17.3	100	3	+					

(over)

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Sept 8 Petinegea River, Cape Sabine, Alaska.

1537 ? Odobenus rosmarus skull (picked up on beach aug 9)
1538 ? " " skull (picked up on beach in 1958 by HEC)
1539 Phalarctos skull (picked up on beach in 1958 by HEC
1540 Phalarctos. skull " " " " " " "

Feb 18, 1957 Arctic Research Lab (Killed back of camp theater) Barrow, Alaska

1541 Phalarctos maritima (Complete Skel.) Coll.: Robert P. 2 yrs old; 6'4" ; EST. wt 200-250 lbs.

July Barrow, Alaska

1543 ? Eschrichtius glaucus (Calf, taken w Cow) Est 25' long

June 59 Lake Peters, Alaska

1542 ? Dall Sheep - lower jaw (mandible only) KILLED IN JUNE 1959 Picked up on Aug 16, 1959

1544 ? Alces alces Jaw + ~~upper~~ lower incisors - (killed by a bear at Peters Lake.) picked up in August 16-27, 1959

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Itinerary

May 18 Fairbanks, Alaska

Left Berkeley ~~yesterday~~ at 10:30 AM, flew via United airlines to Seattle. Left Seattle after a 1 hour layover on Pan american flight to Fairbanks, nonstop. Good food, this was the first time I made this flight on Pan Am. Usually travel via Alaska airlines which had a lower fare rate. It has now equalized the fare so the daylight trip by Pan Am is possible. Really can't say the additional fare quite warrants the slightly better meals.

Day was clear. Flew along coast to Juneau then cut inland over mountains to Fairbanks. Scenery as usual is magnificent. Vast patches of timber cutting for the first time on some of the SE Alaskan Islands as well as on the mainland. I presume this is a sign of the recent opening of the Tongass National forest to exploitation. It certainly spoils the wildness of the region but I guess is inevitable.

Landed at Fairbanks at 5:30 PM local time (3 hour time difference including 1 for daylight saving in Calif).

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May 12 were met by Brina Kessel and her husband. They transported us to College. We had a room at Harnet Keese Hall on campus. Parked our stuff there + went to the Loops. They had a few people over. Bill Pruitt, Fred Dean, Al Johnston (Botanist) + the Swarthes (?) - (Parasitologist). The latter were the married couple in charge of Keen Hall.

May 13 Fairbanks

Had breakfast w the Swarthes. Then obtained a car from the Computer Office of the University. The name of Brewer & ARL seemed to turn the trick. Drove out the Steese Highway 40 miles + found a Shrike nest code had seen in 1956.

The forest was extremely quiet. Found one Red Squirrel - area 10 feet square of underground burrows - large mounds of spruce cone scales, - pile of freshly cut - still unopened spruce cones on the top of this. - A grass nest in tree - may be a summer nest - didn't investigate.

One squirrel seen in tree here.

Black Bear - on slope across valley. Watched him for half an hour. He rambled about apparently looking for food -

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frequent stops & lots of digging etc.

Birds seen:

2 swallows probably Violet Green

heard several Red polls

Stopped at the bridge over the ~~[illegible]~~ Chatanika River. Forest was also very quiet here but we did find a pair of Pine Grosbeaks.

After supper we went to a small lake near campus. Saw:

Horned Grebes (Smith Lake)	Shovellers
Buffle-heads	Canvas-back
Golden Eye (Barrows?)	Scaup (Greater?)
Baldpate	
Geese - Canada	
Greenwing Teal	
Lesser Yellowlegs	
Bonapart's Gulls	
Herring Gull	

At Bluffs along Tanana River found a pair of Peregrines. Mallards on Slough

In the morning before breakfast on walk around campus heard Robin, White-crowned Sparrows.

May 13 Fairbanks

In morning tried to locate nest of Peregrines seen previous evening. Tom climbed down cliff in a climbing rope

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harassed on campus. I photographed some Pacific Planers blooming on the slope. No nest found - just an empty scrape.

Had a chat with Otto Geist in late afternoon. He is going to the north slope this year to work on the Kuk & Ikpikpuk Rivers.

May 14 Barrow Alaska

Up at 5 A.M.; at airport at 5:45-6:00. We in departed at 7 A.M. & for once they are on time. Stopped at Umiat where we found George the only familiar face. Few oil people about they expect a hundred or so this year.

North slope still snow covered - no sign of melting except few ridge tops & few sand bars. No water on Colville & none on other rivers.

Clear sunny day.

Arrived Barrow about 10 A.M.

Dr Juhl after lunch made large circuit of Central marsh - down E side along south edge around Gas well & back - no ducks - no Lemming sign. Did see a couple

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of ptarmigan tracks fairly fresh, + snow bunting tracks about tiny exposed spots.

May 15 Barrow, Alaska

Morning frittered around getting some equipment, talking etc. In afternoon went out with the D-8 caterpillar tractor, Joe Agiak driving. We cleared 3 swaths in central marsh - each about 1/4 mile long. Result. — one lemming runway in use, one next, + one possible next. Vegetation is sprout — no sign of lemming numbers I'm afraid.

May 16 Barrow, Alaska

Tom Cade + I made a weasel trip to the Inarn River via the coal mine cat trail. Left at 9:30 A.M. — Reached river at noon. Distance traveled 30.8 miles from the village. Trail was in good shape.

Snow shows little sign of melting - even ridge + polygon low + thin cover thin which grass + flower stems protrude. We saw almost nothing. One male ptarmigan at 16 miles from village. Rat was + until we reached

Mabley
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the Drain. Along the river ~~we~~ we saw 2 Owls - a male on the river at the point where the trail reached it. A female was seen 1½ miles downstream. These were not paired. There was no sign of a nest in the male, & the fact that the female was not sitting & flew off readily at our approach I think rules out the idea that either were breeding.

A total of about 10 ptarmigan were seen along the river. A group of 7, 5 in dark brown necks, ♂♂?, & 2 almost white with trace of brown in neck ♀♀(?). Feeding & ~~fa~~ gaeties.

Five other ♂♂ seen in groups - some signs of hostility among them. One was seen to charge another.

Return trip in 2 hours +, nothing seen.

Happy hour at Brewers - read most of evening & smashing the cutting of the large mammoth tusk.

May 17 Barrow, Alaska

Up for breakfast. In morning finished cutting tusk & oiled pieces. Packed one piece for shipment to Seth S. Wrote field notes from trip up to date.

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May 17 (Cont.)

Fluttered the afternoon away reading + chatting. This being Sunday the lab has been dead all day. After supper went for spin on Tundra. Checked area along pipe line ridge for owls. None seen. Heard Gulls from dump. They arrived in numbers yesterday morning, at 9.30 A.M according to the camp Physist. Very little of Tundra is exposed yet. ~ 1%. no lemming sign.

Checked Snow Buntings singing behind lab this p.m. Found 4 nests & two eggs so far established:

May 18-19 Barrow, Alaska

Both days have been spent moping about the lab waiting for the plane. Actually something was accomplished on May 18 (Monday). Tom Cade & I decided over and packed all our gear for the Pitmegea trip. This took a good part of the morning & most of the afternoon. Bobby Fisher returned with Don Stevens to Barrow in the afternoon. He could not fly us out because the plane was due for a 100 hour check; but

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he caved + did return to POW 2 – don't quite understand this. On May 18 we were supposed to go by Wien charter. Late in the day we got word it had a broken cylinder. That's it. Wien flight from Fairbanks cancelled out. No mail.

May 20 Petrneqea River, N. Alaska

Spent the morning reading, gathering materials for my movie camera set up, + making final pile of personal gear out on hallway.

At 2 PM we went to air port, unloaded Alan Beale oceanographic gear from one plane, loaded our own stuff and were off. Take off at 2:30 or 2:40 forget which. We went in 2 planes, one w ski-wheel combination gear + the other with skis. Tom + I were in the former w our own gear + Twin Otters in the latter w above mentioned with some of our less important gear.

Sky overcast, patches of fog. – a real "white-out" day. Could see little or nothing on the ground. ∠ 1/2 of ground was Race – only the outlines of ridges + rivers were showing.

This situation remained unchanged as far as ours went until we passed

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Point Lay. A few minutes beyond this point we found the first signs of extensive melting, we also ran out from under the cloud layer into a sunny day. The area in which foothills reach the coast - some 20-25 miles beyond Point Lay - showed signs of extensive melt off. At Putnugea River shortly beyond total clearing estimated at 40 %. - More on the higher areas (45-50)+ less on lowlands (some 25-30 %) Streams + rivers in the foothills were already running for the most part, though some of them were not. The Putnugea was out + ice free - a surprise to us.

Bobby landed us on the bar by Hanks' campsite. The other plane landed upstream on the other side of the river + dumped its load. We landed at 5.00 PM. Bobby then returned to Lay 2 (Point Lay) for some of our gear sent ahead yesterday. Saturday at 7 PM - minus the food. The second plane returned at 9 PM with our food supply.

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May 21 Putnegea River.

Up at 8. On tundra by 10. - walked about 5-6 miles on large circuit on W. side of river. At lunch - set up boat - crossed river & made a large circle of about 4-5 miles on ~~that~~ side. Returned to tent at 7.30 PM. Went to sleep at 9. PM.

May 22 Putnegea River.

Don't recall this day in detail. In general remained in vicinity of tent. Made morning trip around with Tom.

May 23 Putnegea River.

After breakfast + morning trip around, crossed river + walked upstream 2 miles to Dryadian Cirque. Found the nest with 4 eggs on 35 foot cliff directly over water. Collected one egg, took pictures & headed back. Walked about one willow covered bar for an hour or so. 3 feet S. alaxensis - just beginning to bloom. Several (2-3) White crowned sparrows singing. Pintail & Baldpate among willows. Walked back along bottom of high snow bank. Finally had to climb the bank & continue our way on top. Pictures of ♂ Rock Ptarmigan. Reached camp 6-30 or 7.00 PM.

Took walk after supper - noted the

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spreading out of remains pieces & several tentage announcements on part of 2 pads

Heavy rain & wind late in evening

May 24 Pitmegea Cove. Rain stopped during night but wind continued blowing 30-40 mph all day. Had great fun wrestling with tent, lengthening poles, erecting wind break, finally put up to guy ropes when all else failed — cold, - cloudy & some rain & many flurries. Made 2 trap rounds - morning & evening. Wind continues.

May 25 Pitmegea Cove

Spent several hours fooling with tent. Now have it guyed from all four corners. All poles lengthened to maximum & tightened then with aide of an frying pan.

Ran trap line & pulled in traps.

Walked upstream a mile to a stream we couldn't cross. Followed inland about 2 miles to a high ridge beyond the one reached on first day. Made a circle thru the swale between two ridges - saw swale here - & returned to tent at 6 P.M.

Melt off has proceeded steadily & rapidly despite of the raw windy weather. Two

19 abl
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the has been cold + uncomfortable to walk in yet it has been above freezing + has served to melt off the snow. By now less then 10% snow-cover prevails. On south facing slopes like the area across the river it is less then that. Two days ago - on the evening of the 23. The cover across the river was about 40%. Most of snow remaining is in large banks in ravines - along river + in lee of ridges + along streams. The tundra itself is largely clear.

Frost flowers - the Saxifraga oppositifolia is just coming out.

May 26 Pitmegea River.

Up at 10 A.M. Gad! Tom slammed out a few mice after breakfast. I walked the bar downstream from camp. Found a skeleton - possibly Grizzly Bear - a ribcage + pelvis - probably bones from last year. I didn't realize however that a bear skeleton was missing. Pegged it back to the tent + will take it in to Barrow. We finally got set + crossed the river - the wind being down sufficiently to allow this. I almost capsized the boat in pushing off - put about 5 inches of water in the bottom + wet myself pretty well. Otherwise we crossed without

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incident. Tom then walked upstream to the Gyrfalcon nest. I headed downstream & explored the mouth of the river. The shorebird concentration in the delta was very disappointing. No new shorebird species showed up - only a few Sanderling. A Baird's Sandpiper landed by me on one of the islets in the delta.

Saw a male Shoveller along one small lake adjacent to the river. These 2 were the only surprises.

There is an old eskimo house on the E. edge of the river - the few adjacent mounds look as if they are the remains of old sod huts.

Returned to the boat at 6 PM. Tom Rodvik returned as I headed upstream to meet him. Saw him coming as I reached the top of the first ridge about half mile upstream.

Area between river & first ridge, north to shore & S to first ridge is about 1/2 square mile.

May 27 Tatinagea River. Today was to be the day the plane came. Ops so we thought. It was cloudy & relatively still when we got up this morning. I took advantage of the lack of wind to burn the trash we

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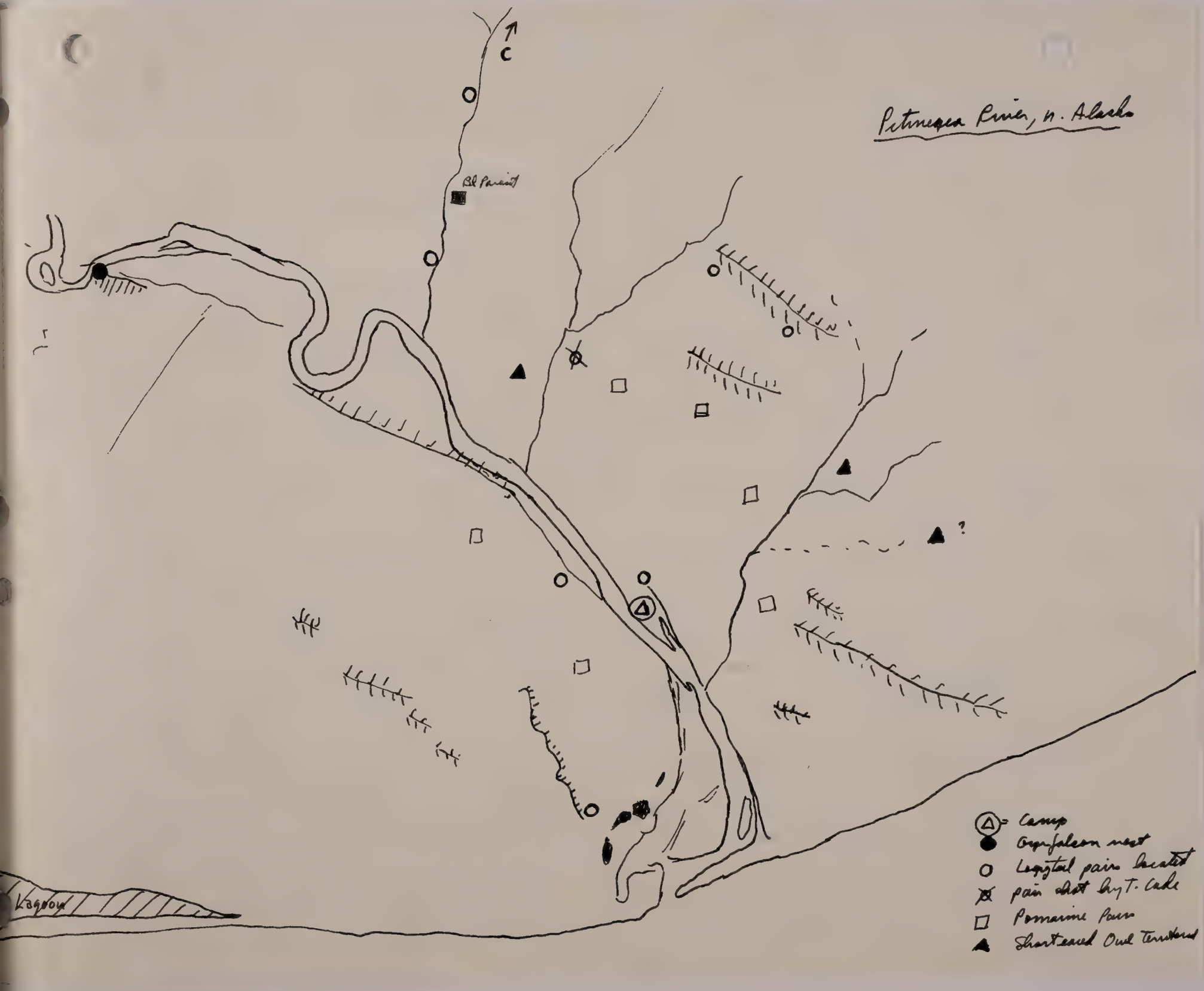
had accumulated in anticipation of leaving. By late morning the wind which has been steadily blowing from a SSW quarter for days swerved 180° + came from the NE. It brought in fog + mist and late in the day a fall of snow. Large beautiful flakes that came down with little breeze. It was shortly evident that the plane would not make it in. Walked down coast on this side of river, managed to cross the stream, half mile N. of camp which has blocked us in that direction for 4 or 5 days. The water level in the stream has dropped some making crossing a simple matter. Found 2 Japanese net floats on the bar at the mouth of the river. No new birds then. The delta is disappointingly barren. Circled W. along shore & high ridge + back to camp.

Collected a few plants in morning, will try to bring them to flower at ARL.

May 28 Petitmeges River

The plane did not arrive today. The wind continues strong from the NE - it is cold - below freezing + this wind has effectively chilled off the tundra. The snow


Putnuqua River, N. Alaska
C
Bl Parent
Lagoon
Camp
Gyrfalcon nest
Longtail pair located
pair shot by T. Cade
Pomarine pairs
Shorteared Owl territories

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has a hard crust which will support a man. Ice formed on the tundra ponds and puddles. The river has continued to drop - there is now a fair sized bar in the middle of the river..

Went for a short walk, checked the geese on the area behind tent. Promantled our boat & carried it to the tent area.

After supper walked a mile upstream. Flushed a duck - a pair - from a small stream. They turned out to be a duck I had never seen & one which is not figured in Peterson. I studied it carefully & then returned to the tent & made a sketch of it. From thumb it might be a Falcated Teal.

Tom & I returned to the area with guns in the hopes of collecting it but could not find the birds. Instead walked on down a mile or so to another stream a large one & up it for another mile.

Found a pair of Rough-legs, located, but not yet nesting.

Returned to tent by 1:30 AM.

May 29 Barrow, Alaska

The plane arrived at 10:00 10:15 AM. Tom & I were still in the sack when we heard it. I staff/ gusty wind was blowing which

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almost prevented a landing. We hurried camp in a hurry. — cached our gear under a mountain of driftwood + left. Stopped at Liz A — some 30 miles E of the Putnegen for gas. From here we went on grand tour of N.W. Alaska. Departed Liz A @ 12:45 PM. — followed the coast West ~~of~~ to Cape Lisburne. ~~The~~ Clouds covered the NW corner of the coast so we were above clouds from W. of the Putnegan on to the cape. The coast just south of Lisburne was free. From here we followed the coast to Cape Thompson, doubled back + forth two times along this stretch + continued S. along the coast.

Just N. of cape Krusenstern we cut overland crossing the Ivichuck Hills to Kotzebue, where we landed at 14:48.

Departed Kotzebue at 16:39 after a thin lunch at the "Eskimo Store". Flew up the Noatak River Valley. Because of head winds + increased gas consumption we had to cut across the Brooks Range W. of Howard Pass, down the ~~Kel~~ Kuna River straight N. to Wainright. From here we went under the clouds + flew at 100 feet MSL to Barrow where we arrived at 8:13 PM.

Noatak Valley: It was far wonder

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then I had imagined it on the lower stretch. Forest extends (Spruce that is) in unbroken band several miles on either side in some areas. Trees are tall + well grown - seem spaced out moderately so that none are touching - they are not however sparse or scattered but more orchard like in spacing.

Spruce ~~tree~~ end rather abruptly just beyond the confluence of the Kelly River.

Should mention the tall stands of poplar in lower river. Bands of willows, Poplar, + Spruce in that order along the water along the lower river.

Spruce then drop out as mentioned. Willows + poplar continue - in some places occupying ~~sides~~ of upper terraces. Here along this stretch I thought there was some birch mixed in with the other deciduous elements. Tom didn't see this.

After a long stretch in which the river, valley is narrow + more or less "U" shaped + again widens into a very broad area of almost rolling upland timber type terrain. Unfortunately snow was still pretty thick here + I don't have a good

14 ales
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May 29 (con't) impression of the vegetation at all. Also right about here we started climbing to cross the Brooks Range. Once into the range clouds obscured the ground for most of the way.

Caught occasional glimpses of the ground. The foothills are still more than 90% covered in snow. This cover increased towards the coast. We came out of the clouds at the upper Kuk River. Cover here is 95% & up. This situation prevails to Barrow. Only edges of rivers & the ocean show any melting at all & this very slight.

Cape Thompson:

Made 3 passes by cliffs at Thompson. They are estimated at 800 feet high. Little bird life around them, only a few kittiwakes were seen flying near them. Ice was still in shore along this stretch.

No signs of activity at Thompson, no buildings, no equipment & no H-bomb. Disappointing.

There are tremendous cliffs & headlands near Lisburne & from there south quite a ways. Should be good rookeries. — We did not see them because of rough air.

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May 30 Moped pretty steadily today. Except for writing up field notes on the plane trip & a few from the Putnegea I did nothing all day.

May 31 Worked up the specimens from the Putnegea River in the morning. Finished notes & brought them up to date. In the afternoon I went out in the mead for a little look see. Went out by Freek Lake & Central marsh. Visited all 3 of our scrapes. Then traveled to S. end of Beach Ridge & followed it N for a mile or so chasing a Wheatear. The chased him back down to S. end & left him. crused the S. edge of the marsh & up gasline ridge & camp.

Saw no jaegers. Examined polygon tops along ridges. They show no lemming activity. The scrapes are well opened in places. There is no sign of lemming activity. One runway looked like it might have been active this winter but not currently. This was probably the one runway we saw when the scrape was first made.

A few Longspurs have arrived, a pair of Snow Buntings was seen and one Wheatear.

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June 1 Barrow, Alaska

Nothing accomplished this day. Went out in the afternoon with John O'Sullivan to some lakes he had drilled in Freeh Lake. Descended one hole, 25" diameter 20' deep. Through 5 feet of lake ice & 15 feet of sediments. A fabulous cross section — especially the section clear ice — active layer — permafrost. Large ice lenses in frozen active layer — none in permafrost. Upper inch of active layer brown ~~(Oxidized)~~ (oxidized) remainder gray (reduced) except at permafrost boundary where there was some oxidation.

June 2 Barrow, Alaska.

Got wiring & stakes finally ready & go to Peters Lake. Wrote letters. In afternoon was on tap for trip to Umiat in Cessna. Didn't get off. Did get a start on movie camera set up. Got wire & clamps & set up light to see how long it will run off a 6 volt battery. Gave drawings for light housing to Father. Another washday.

June 3 Barrow, Alaska

Paul ~~informed~~ me early in the morning

Sunday
May 31
June 1

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that I would not be going on the Umiat trip today. I gathered together some gear, got a weasel & went off to survey the tundra around Barrow. Went to gas well on road - then on to Isbrouck Lake - went down to its south end - crossed the exposed polygons near its outlet and on up the ridge along its East side, back on dry lake went to west & up this through polygon area to Denali ridge. The new gas line to the village cuts right through this area passing by the peak of the ridge near the marker - came straight on to the base from here. After lunch went south to Dokpik Slough to its mouth - crossed along it - around the gas well & back by road.

Tundra still 97 - 98% covered. Though there was enough polygon tops & ridges exposed to get a good look at the vegetation. There is no sign of lemmings anywhere. In all the area the only sign I saw was one winter nest at Wainwright area - this one had been invaded by a weasel & contained lemmings remains. This seems to have been the only lemming in the Barrow area. Clouds brought on

14 abes
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4 today from the village - Few Dunlin, first shorebirds

June 4 Barrow, Alaska

Spent morning putting together circuit for photocell apparatus. Frank Pitelka arrived w/ Bob Haines

After lunch went out to the pressure ridge with Tim Myers & Mike Daniels. In one hour a tremendous flight of Pacific Eiders occurred. Some pomarine jaegers were seen. Old Squaw, King Eider, one Emtail, 1 Short-eared Owl, Murres, Yellow-bill & other loons were also seen.

Returned at 4 PM. Went on flight to Umiat with Bobby Fisher.

Log of trip:

Depart Barrow	4:40 P.M.
Oarlock Island	5:05
½ Moon 3 Land (No night)	5:17
Arrived Umiat	6:25
Depart Umiat	7:10

Followed down Colville to Oliktok — west to Barrow. Arrived Barrow 9:25 PM

Comments: Coastal plain still 97-98 % snow covered. Little melting so ice progressed inland. Streams + rivers closed. Topkuk River had some water on the ice but not much. Ice melting didn't show

Maher
1959

Journal

up until we were quite near Umiat - say 2/3 or 3/4 of the way & here it was only 30-40 % — Hills began just outside of Umiat - here melt off was as much as 50-60%. In Colville valley it is much higher - 80 - 90 % clear.

This holds until right below the main fork of the mouth where snow cover increases. The river is open & the mouth & running free of ice for most its length -

Drained oriented lakes toward S. part of coastal plain - south of Teshekpuk Lake area. - Several drained lakes with small ponds in centers. Surface of ponds with polygonal patterning.

Tundra on east side of Colville & east part of delta reported by Lade as "clear & green" from the air was perhaps 10 % opposed but the green area was a large overflow of the Colville River - the

June 5 Barrow, Alaska

Wasted day

June 6 Barrow, Alaska.

Got 19 rolls of "Jaeger fences" ready for Peterneos & Kaolak River. Cutting & rolling these took until early afternoon. Walked out to the head of camp & watched for an

Alaska
1959

Journal

hour – 3:50 – 4:50 PM. Overcast day with a strong 20-25 mph ESE wind blowing. Old Squaw were sitting on the water by the thousands. Few were moving – just small local flights & a couple of small flocks that seemed to be on the move.

List of birds seen:

3:50	43	Pacific Eiders, ½ ♂♂ → NE
4:00	2 ♂	Pacific Eider landed near by.
4:05	18	Spectacled } flock
	7	King }
4:15	40, 60♀	Spectacled
	40♀	King – estimated
4:21	22	Kings ½ ♂
4:23	4	Kings – landed on water
	4	Kittiwakes
4:42	3	Pom(?) Jaegers → West

June 6 7 Barrow, Alaska – Sunday.

The only constructive thing I did during the day was to walk out to the lead at 12 o'clock carrying the one Kodak. Got a few feet (40) of some King Eider males. Too many people were out there (5 of us total) & the ducks refused to come close enough for good pictures.

Maher
1959

Journal

June 8-11 Barrow, Alaska.

Four last days. Waited to get out to Pitmegea River. Finished camera set up on Monday + finished packing. From then on simply moped about. Wednesday we were on deck but finally rubbed because of weather at the Pitmegea. Thursday we actually got off the ground, but at Peard Bay - in 1½ hours out Bobby turned back. The weather was pretty thick.

June 12 Pitmegea River, N. Alaska.

Off the ground at Barrow at 9:55.

Log of the trip follows:

9:55 Left Barrow

Barrow area 10% of ground exposed.

1 Pintail

50 Old Squaw

1 Glaucous Gull

10:03 Monument

Here exposure is a little higher than at Barrow. 10-15% overall, - less in low-center areas - 25-30% in high center areas.

10:06 1 Pomarine flying

10:08 1 Pomarine flying

10:09 Skull cliff

10:10 1 Parasitic Jaeger

10:11 ♀ Ptarmigan

October
1959

Journal

10:12 2 Geese

10:15 1 pomarine jaeger
4 geese

10:18 1 Pomarine jaeger

10:20 2 Sabine Gull

10:21 15 Old Squaw

10:22 Log C

10:30 1 Pomarine jaeger

10:36 1 Duck.

10:37 2 Old Squaw

10:43 Kuk Loon - from here we followed along right over the beach all the way in to Petuneyan - followed sand spit over point Log etc.

10:52 2 Old Squaw
12 Terns

10:58 2 Glaucous Gulls

10:59 Flocks of Loons, Old Squaw, etc on small open waters

10:60 1 Sabine Gull

11:01 2 Tern, 4 Sabine

11:02 Large flock of loons on water - 1 gull

11:03 2 Sabine, 1 Glaucous Gull

11:04 7 Sabine Gull, 1 Tern

11:05 Whale Skeleton

11:07 1 Glaucous Gull

11:12 1 Sabine

11:14 4 Old Squaw

Maher
1959

Journal

11:15 1 Tern, 1 Pintail, 6 Gulls

11:17 1 Tern, 10 Terns, 2 Sabine

11:21 ~~3~~ 1 pr. Common Eider

11:22 1 pr Common Eider

11:22 Seven Eider in group

11:25 1 Tern, 4 Loons

11:27 2 Gulls

11:42 4 Old Squaw

11:41 Point Lay

11:44 King Eider (6), large flock Gulls, Ducks, Loons, —

11:45 5 Scoters (?) white patch on rear dorsal extreme black.

Just beyond Point Lay the tundra looks 80-90% clear.

11:57 Large Gull flock 100±

Leg A - 12:10

12:16 4 Cranes

12:24 Ptarmigan Rise.

My note taking became spastic after Point Lay. Weather had all the way to Point Lay - lifted beyond that. We flew at 100-200 feet until past Leg 1 (Point Lay).

Put up tent first thing, cache was undisturbed. Bobby made 2 shuttles to Leg A for some of our gear shipped by the Department. When he had brought it all we found

Mahan
1959

Journal

a few interesting things missing. Swedes sleeping bag. My duffle bag with clothing etc., the box made to house my camera recording equipment. That's all missing I think. On the credit side is the fact that we got our own grocery order plus the grocery order intended for Mike Daniel at the Colville River. On the debit side is NO COFFEE. What a blow - however 2 cases of Nestle chocolate compensate for this.

Cleaned out ice cellar - full of Gammel & fox droppings - repaired the top & insulated it with sod. Put meat in - hope this gets cold enough so we have much too much meat.

Went for a walk from 6 to 9 PM. upriver to second stream - inland half mile or so to back overlands. Snow is gone except for large drifts in ravines & along river, Saxifraga oppositifolia is blooming as is Cerastium, the Blue anemone & several other mat flowers I can't name.

June 13 Pitmegea River, Alaska

In field about noon (slightly before), proceeded West from camp to first second ridge - along second ridge S. to Baked Stream - crossed & headed West to Ridge III. Followed the ridge S. to high peak adjacent

Maher
1959

Journal

to Willow creek. From here followed creek to river + along river to camp. Reached camp at 7 PM hungrier than hell.

Most exciting observation was of 2 Grizzly Bears feeding along the slope of Ridge III. They progressed along slope coming from NW, heading S. along ridge. When first spotted about 1 PM they were ahalfway along ridge. They headed up slope + crossed by a cairn on ridge. First bear sniffed it + rubbed thigh against it. Might have urinated. Second bear sniffed it, sat on hind quarters + sniffed it thoroughly then he rolled on it. Rubbed back + forth on it - forelegs flailing in the air. When he got up in a couple of minutes there was no more cairn. The bears followed my Baikal Steam drainage - out NW + that was the last I saw of them. Essentially they simply circled Ridge 3, at a slow ambling pace. Foraging continuously. One bear was Brown with orange or gold tinge to upper parts as in bear at ARL. Second one appeared black. Did manage to find a paraclu nest, a Longtail nest + a Short-ear nest. all of which are shown on map + in app accounts. Ended out + started running in evening.

Parasitic Jaeger Tail Short-ear

Maher
1959

Journal

June 14 Putnegea River. Snowfield by 11, Snow improving. A light rain falling, low overcast. Almost no wind. Proceeded to Owl ridge (#1) found Longtail nest with grotesque egg this side of it. Found second nest on far side of it. Walked ridge to S. end & came back to tent through polygonal area. Pretty soaked by then - 3 hrs. Had hot cocoa & stuff dried up a bit - was thinking of heading out again when Bob Hain arrived in the plane with most of our missing gear, plus a few goodies like coffee, Bisquick etc.

After they left headed out again (5:00 PM) Found L. tail nest at mouth of Bailed Stream. Watched owls in this area for an hour, was confused by what I saw. Three different fights, ♂ vs ♂, ♀ vs ♀, then ♂ vs ♀. Thought I had a nest for a while but am now at a loss. Proceeded to Willow stream and watched a longtail for a while. Back to tent by 8:30.

Went out again for an hours walk at 10:30.

June 15 Putnegea River, Alaska

Heavy fog in the morning. At times couldn't see across the river. Still. Started clearing about noon. Rolled away rapidly

Malta
1959

Journal

once it started & the day became warm, clear & sunny. Walked over country N. of camp from camp to coast — made a circle through marsh & Owl Ridge & back to camp. Back at camp by 5:30. Went out again about 7:30 & 8:00 walked S. to check longtail nest by Bridal Stream. Continued beyond to Willow Creek, found a longtail nest across it, which miscarried ~~that~~ I made the creek & was knee deep, swift, & ice cold. Returned to camp by 10:00 PM.

June 16 Petrogea Rosea

This day covered course of Bridal Slough. took fencing out to Longtail nest #4, followed up slough both ~~sides~~ South fork. Found Longtail nest. Further up found Parasitic nest. Spent some time here watching female owl & male owl. thought there was a nest in the area near the Longtail nest. Continued to Ridge III, now Bear Ridge & followed along it for half mile or so. Located another Longtail nest. Then made traverse through marshy area to Ridge II. Found a parasitic nest, a black & normal bird mated. Headed back to tent.

June 17 Petrogea Rosea. Cut across marsh to S end Owl ridge. Longtail pair here still not

Mahe
1959

Journal.

meeting. Saw them copulate. Proceeded to Ridge III. Visited Owl nest now with 4 eggs. returned!
Picture Found Red thr. Loon nest in small
Pictures pond, 2 eggs. picture! Visited & marked the Pomarine nest seen yesterday evening. then headed across the drainage to a distant ridge I had not visited. On way over flushed ♂ & ♀ owls. Female gave a hoarse cry when I got near, led me to think I might have a nest. Watched for a long time. Thoroughly confused. will never watch Short-eared Owls again. At ridge found a pair Longtails apparently no nest. Further along other ridge had a duck a pair had nest with 2 eggs. From here witnessed copulation of Pomarine pair on march. Followed walk to shore. Bear Tracks. Followed shore to the end of the long ridge leading back towards camp. Followed along it & on in.

After supper checked bar for Semipalmated plover seen there in morning — no sign. Then set up boat & Rich & I crossed river. Wandered around for an hour & a half. Calm, sunny, beautiful evening. Returned to tent around midnight. Read until 1:30 AM.

June 18 Petrneja River, Alaska

Maher
1959

Journal

June 18 (Cont.)

Fenced in 9 nests today in view of possible departure tomorrow. Carried out 3 fences & stakes & stated Longtail # 2 & 3 and then Pomarine # 3. Returned to camp picked up 3 more fences headed out to Longtail nest #5. Adult here had amazing reaction to my presence spent much of their time hovering within a few feet of my head & alternately landing on it & pecking at it. Pictures! Proceeded to the parasitic nest on Long Ridge & then over to Pomarine #1. Went back to camp through the marshy area of Loon Lake drainage. Checked for Pomarine pair in this area. There was none.

Pictures

Had a supper of pancakes & at 9 PM headed out again. Put up fence at longtail #4 headed up draw to Pomarine #3 fenced it & then over the ridge to the parasitic pair along willow creek. Reached the tent again about 1 AM.

June 19 Returned Camp in Marsh

Foggy in morning. A north wind yesterday brought in the ice pack & early this morning fog rolled in. It stayed along the coast all day not

Mabel
1959

Journal

blowing away until late in the evening, about 11 PM. It was a beautiful day about camp evening with a slight cool breeze blowing. Finished reading armstrongs book on the Russians in the arctic, also spent an hour or more digging + planting the plot of radishes + lettuce, also put in a few pea seeds but since these date from 1956 I'm not too optimistic about their growing. After lunch collected a few plants from the ridge + pressed them, also took a few photos of flowers. Then took Chris Kodak + went out to the Willow Ptarmigan nest found yesterday. Expended about 100 feet of film on her + the nest. Also a bunch of stills. Read in evening. Plane didn't come.

Pictures

(a Female Ptarmigan)

June 20 Putuligan River.

Upat 9 AM. Today seemed like a good day for the plane. The sky was clear + only a light breeze was blowing. I wrote up the previous 2 days notes this A.M., pressed a few plants, + then had some lunch. By then my anticipation of the plane had lessened. I crossed the river. Found a parasitic jaeger nest toward the ridge. Followed the ridge to the shore. On the

March
1959

Journal

way I found a Red throated loon nest.
Also took a few pictures of a small caribou herd which was ~~g~~ moving towards me.
I crouched in a small excavation at the top of the ridge but I was upwind from them & at about 200 yds they caught my scent & began ~~dupting~~ ducting off again. I stood up and took a few pictures anyway. FD

Found a ~~Red~~ Fourth Red-throated loon nest on return. Every pond of any size over in the marshy area has a loon pair on it. Back at tent by 5:30.

After brief supper checked Red thr. loon nest behind camp ridge. Now has 2 eggs, one laid since ~~last~~ yesterday evening.
Also found the Golden Plover nest above camp — 4 eggs. A stiff breeze is beginning to blow again, it looks like no flight today for sure

June 21 Cistronegra Lake, ~~on~~. Alaska

Went over to check on Longtail pair #11 by Owl Ridge. Found their nest with 2 eggs. Checked on Pintail nest by ridge 2, found Golden Plover nest. Checked on Ptarmigan nest on way in.

At 1:30 the plane arrived with Hank Childs aboard, we loaded aboard & went

Mabel
1959

Journal

for a 2 hour reconnaissance looking for caribou to check on the migration route of the herd that went through here last year. Crossed upper Liz. R. headed south past Doglas Mt. & Kukpuruk River followed it upstream over divid & down the Kukpuk River. Near the coast we swung out along the cliffs at Cape Thompson. The rookeries were in operation this time & thousands of Murres & Puffins & Kittiwakes flew out as we passed. Saw a pair of Golden Eagles flying along the cliff. Followed up the N. fork of the Kukpuk, cut over to coast at the Cowin River & followed coast back to the Pitmegea. Most of the few caribou seen were in upper Kukpuk & along coast W. of Pitmegea. However H. Childs got some good close by plotting the caribou trails visible from the air.

Raining lightly when we returned here. Dick Cavalli departed with the pilot. Hank & I set up a 8x10 wall tent he brought & moved in. This is the same tent I used at Kavlak River in 1957. Set out traplines after supper.

Maher
1959

Journal

June 22 Petrineja River, n Alaska. Up at 10:30 A.M. Set up the movie camera recorder for a trial run. Still lack a protective box for it but in view of the nice weather I decided to set it up for a trial. Finally got it running after much fussing around. The Plus X 16 mm I got however has single edge perforations + this old de Vry will not handle it.

Went out to Pomarine pacific nest # 3 and watched from 2-6:30

After supper we straightened up camp + fussed about.

Fine warm clear day.

June 23 Petrineja River

Another beautiful day. Went out to Ridge 2 + watched for 6 hours at Pomarine nest # 3. Returned at 7 PM + so. After supper crossed river + walked to Gyrfalcon Eyrie. The Gyrfalcons are gone. A pair of Rough-leg Hawks now nest there. They may be the same pair Tom + I saw on Willow Creek earlier. Are very white looking. A Sharp Shinned nest w 5 eggs was on same cliff. This is a garden spot. W slope covered w Rhododendron Lapponicum Ferns on east side, and lots of mosquitoes.

Mabel
1959

Journal

June 23 (Cont.).

Back at tent by 11:30 PM.

June 24 Pitmegea River, n. Alaska.

Up at 9:30 AM. North wind blowing, & as Hank prophesied Caribou came with it. Herd of 100 or so crossed river from W. → E below camp. Then returned to the side. Took 200 feet of movies of this. At Ridge II by 2:20 watched until 8:30. Took movies of Snow Bunting - Returned to camp 9:00 PM or later - ate - went out & moved one trap line for H.C.. Fog had moved in. Back at camp by 11.

June 25 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Wrote notes up in A.M., did some laundry, pressed a few plants. In afternoon walked upstream about 4 miles. Explored the tall willows (6-7 feet) along a small creek which comes in up there. The willows extend a few yards on either side of a small meandering creek as well as along several cut off sloughs - for ¼ ½ mile from mouth of creek. At about mile the creek leaves the river terrace & enters the bluffs the willows peter out to a few low scattered groves. Their maximum height in some groves was 8 feet or so. I had hoped for an exotic nesting species or so but found nothing

Mahe
1959

Journal

June 25 (last) Unusual. Redpolls + Tribute-crowned Fys.. Picked up an old Shrike nest + brought it back to camp. 1/2 - 3/4 mile above this creek I spotted a rock pinnacle which looked good for Peregrines. Found a nest alright but at present unused, few Rough-leg feathers about. Walked up the creek 1/2 mile + so found a Rough-leg nest on a steep rock slope - likewise unused this year. Returned to camp at 7:15 PM. Hank had shot caribou.

After supper boated down to the delta. Ice along shore as far as one could see. Large flock of Sterlets (Arctic) + Old Squaw plus few other ducks.

Barn Swallow roosting in old cabin. Returned to tent 11:30 PM.

June 26 Pitmegea River, Alaska

In morning fussed with camera set up again. Also by shake of luck had the longtail do a tug of war by tent + filmed that. Afterward made a circuit of study area going N. along ridge to Longtail nest nearest the cabin, then to the Parasit nest, + on W along shore to next longtail nest. Traversed marshy drainageway to Parasite Ridge where found a longtail nest I hadn't located before. Also located parasite nest of pair seen copulating here some

Meher
1959

Journal

June 26 Time back. Recent influx of remains some of which are defending territories has confused the situation so that I couldn't locate the nest. Went straight from ridge to top of Bear Mt. Followed it on around + checked on one Longtail nest along it also found the one not previously located. It had 2 eggs one of which was pipping. On way in checked Pomarine nest #3 - egg not pipping + Longtail nest #3 likewise. Got lost in fog while coming down mtn. In at 7:30 PM. Spent evening writing letters.

Longtail nest #13

June 27 Barrow, Alaska

Heavy fog in the morning. Wrote a letter or two under impression that the plane would not be in. It arrived however at 1:30 with F.A.A. John Koranda aboard. The plane remained for 2 hours or so then returned to Barrow with Frank + myself. A brief stop at Liz A. Saw a Barn Swallow. At Barrow by 5:30 P.M. Had a shower wrote some notes + went to bed.

June 28 Kaolak River, Alaska.

No sign of life on part of Eskimo people until 10 A.M. when I encountered

Miller
1959

Journal

May Brenn + found that I was indeed getting out today. Had packing + confusion; finally off by 1:30 PM. At Kaolak at 2:30 The second flight came in at 5:30 or so. Bobby Funke flew in. Dick Swade came in with me. Bobby stayed about an hour chatting over coffee. After he left I went out for a walk. Found a parasit nest behind camp. Same pair as have always occupied this area — last year they were across the W. fork. Walked downstream + found the Eagle Flat pair + nest, also the Eagle Draw Longtail are nesting. Found a Tern nest in marshy area at N. end Eagle Flats. Saw 2 Short-ear Owls. Saw a nest of Longtail across river from Fox Den Bluff. River was high + didn't cross to it. In each by 1 AM.

June 29 Kaolak River, Alaska.

Long-Tail nest

Up at 10 AM + in field by 11 AM. Went to Elephant Draw. Found nest w 2 eggs. walked on up draw to top. Pair up there missing Found a Short-ear Owl nest w 4 eggs in same general area. Circled down W side of Big Sister. Spotted Parasitic Jr + finally found their nest. Crossed Lake basin; found one Longtail nest in center; no others in basin. Located Loon nest (Arctic) on

Short-eared Owl

Male,
1957

Journal

June 29. Little Sister - 2 eggs, took a ten on the nest near the lake. Didn't go to nest. One Loon on Big Sister - probably a nest there too. Walked through area S. of Little Sister Draw & then on back. Found Longtail nest in draw. Came in & camped by 4:30 After eating (& cooling off) found in near parasite nest & covered mine & found & found the Longtail nest spotted there yesterday.

Photographed Willow ptarmigan in evening dust bathing near tent.

Picture Willow Ptarmigan

Today was clear & sunny as was yesterday but unusually hot about 2 PM. Occasional breeze all day brought relief. Very few mosquitoes out yesterday when we arrived. They have come out today in numbers.

The snow banks are extra large yet, and there are banks - to behind tents, which I haven't seen before. Many Willows against the river banks are only beginning to leaf out & some haven't begun. It looks as if this warm weather is a very recent phenomenon.

Ice still practically covers Big Sister. It is thin & breaking up but is still much more than I have seen before. Little Sister is only half covered.

Maher
1959

Journal

June 30 Kaolak Creek + Alaska. Carried fencing to Eagleflat parasite nest + fenced same, also fenced in the Longtail in the same vicinity. Traversed upland to Amber flats, found nest there at West end. Walked along to two lakes at East end of flats. Found a Plumous Dull nesting by West Tidny Lake and a Longtail a few Hundred yards away in marsh. Returned over upland + zig-zagged about + finally found Longtail nest which fills in the last gap in the map.

In evening fenced in the camp parasite pair. Rain showers in early evening. Thunder and lightning.

July 1 Barrow, Alaska. Fenced in Eleyhaus Dunn Longtail. Longtail #8 + Plumous Cuckoo. Made the last an extra large enclosure. Then walked up to Sister Lakes + fenced in the parasitic pair there. Dick went out on lake while I was there - Big Sister - (Warm day but brisk breeze blowing) this confounded the mosquitoes. Returned to camp By 3.0 or 3:30. No sign of plane, until 5:30 or 6 PM when it arrived. Took Dick + myself + left all our camping gear. Radio + low flight to Wainright picked up Dick Holmes + returned to Barrow.

~~Few~~ Jottings on Kodak River stay: No noticeable evidence of increased rodent activity in vegetation as I walked, Have large quantity of hay on bank of east fork - + considerable amount ~~on~~ caught on vegetation along main river. Mud more than usual. This plus addition of short-ea makes me think muskrats might be up. Must run trap next time in there.

Pellet of M. oeconomus remains in Hancock Creek.

Meber
1959

Journal

July 2 Pitmegea River, Alaska. Weather pretty miserable all day. Departure delayed until 1:30 P.M. as while Bobby tried to fix his radio compass. Finally off. Flew contact all the way. Most of the time at 200 ft or less. Weather broke after we were past Lg 2 (Point Lay). John Kosanka departed on plane. Had a meal & fussed in parasitic jaeger nest across river. Just in time one egg is hatched and the other hatching.

July 3 Pitmegea River, Alaska. Cold, rainy, misty day. Drid from 55 W + gusty. Finished up notes on Kasak stay. Ie made a good map of the area with nest locations. I found that my new instrument box made a fine light table with the aid of the Coleman Lantern. Checked over the new flash outfit it works like a charm. Weather moderated in afternoon. Went out to the parasitic nest #3, weighed chick. Then went to Lt #5, Pom. #1 + #3, Lt # 3 + 2 + back for supper. Pom #3 has lost egg, adults still present. Longtail #3 is gone, #2 still about. I seem to be down 20 % before starting.

July 4 Pitmegea River, Alaska.

Helped Hank Childs get in trap lines in morning. Afterwards made round of nests, going upstream by #4 to Wilson Creek

Mahey
1959

Journal

July 4 - up Wallow Creek via LT#8, Pass #1, LT#1, crossed ridge to Pass #2, down stream to LT#9, over to Barbal Slough & checked pair #11 & on in to base. Went across river & weighed Parasit #3. After supper walked to ocean checked LT#6, just hatching, weighed Parasit #2 & LT#5 & back to tent.

Day cool & windy but sun was out most of time

July 5 Petrineja River, Alaska. Cold day wind gusty from NW & NNW. partly cloudy. Typed it off by a good stream flurry at 11 PM or so.

Made one round today. Visited LT#4, 8, Parasit #1, Longtail #1. Continued along Wallow Creek past Wolverine Mt. Located chick & pair (LT.#17) — & further on a second pair — located one of their chicks (#18) weighed same. Returned via Pass #2 & checked LT#11 on the way in.

July 6 Petrineja River, Alaska.

Made round of Parasit 3, Longtail 5, Pomarine #1, Parasitic #2, & Longtail #6. Wind blowing from S W. By afternoon it began to rain. Spent remainder of day reading & typing & write.

July 7 Petrineja River, Alaska

Wind is even stronger today, tho it is

Journal

mild in temperature. Made rounds of Longtail 4, 6, 8, Parasitic #1, Pomarine 2, ~~Longtail~~ 11+2. Checked Short-ear Owl nest which was found abandoned. No sign of eggs or adults. An adult pomarine ♂, of pair #3 (?) was in area. Mist + rain began about 2 P.M. so trip to Marmot ridge was again postponed. Brief progress report in afternoon.

July 8 Pitmegea River, Alaska.

Wind much stronger than yesterday, gusts up to 50 mph I would say. However it was mild in morning + I made round of Parasitic #3, Longtail #5, Parasitic #2, Pomarine #1, Longtail 11+2 were rechecked., #2 found sitting. Moved wire fence from LT #3, abandoned, to site of #11 nest. Didn't set up the eggs not knowing + the wind making operation possibly hazardous to the eggs. Rock ptarmigan nest hatched.

Rock Ptarmigan hatched

At 4:30 Hank + I went for walk across river. Wind increased, rain started, walked to ridge 1 mile E of river ("One Mile Ridge") found parasitic nest w one egg. The egg is apparently damaged. No sign of a first clutch. Located area of a longtail nest near N. end of One Mile Ridge.

Mabee
1959

Journal

returned to tent soaked at 6:30 p.m.

July 9 Putnegan River, Alaska.

Mostly sunny day, wind died down this still breezy until evening when it became calm. River running bank to bank in morning. Dropped rapidly so that by evening we could walk dry shod to the boat ~~anchored~~ in mid stream.

Made round of nests. LT#4, Parent#1, Pom#2, LT#11 (fenced at in) & LT#2 returned to camp at 4:30. After supper, calm, sunny watched owl hunting across river. Found

Owl nests

nest. Watched owls from S. end campridge spotted & located second nest.

July 10 Putnegan River, Alaska.

Broken clouds in morning, light SW wind blowing, cool. Made round of Parent#3 & Owl#2, then went out on round of LT#5, Parent#2 & Pom#1.

Owl nest

Found an Owl nest (#4) near LT#5, 206 paces E. of it to be exact. Pomarine #1 is gone. Chick gone, only a few tufts of down were found. The pipping egg I dont think ever hatched - the shell is still in compound but no sign of its contents. At least one parent still present. One pomarine defending territory actively. There may possibly be another nest in

Mahler
1959

Journal

July 10 (cont). This area. Checked longtail #2, still pipping, near to hole in shell. Weighed Owl #3. As I was finishing owl nest I heard a plane & hurried to camp. It was Cessna landed as I reached the camp ridge. contained Frank Gregory & controls & 2 Botanists. Hank & I flew up the river, landed at 16 mile walked around a few minutes. There was no sign of an appreciable Muskox population. Then left Hank at 6 mile locality & came back to base. One of Botanists went out to join him with the camping gear. Pair arrived shortly after plane. Turned to snow flurries in late evening. Wind from N.

July 11 Putuligea River, Alaska. Snow on mountains!

Made round of nests to count today. Nests: LT #4, Parent #1, found chick of LT #1, LT Pair #18 present, passed on terrace above LT #17 & don't know if they were present or not; reached cliff at 5 W corner of Wolverine nest; Pippo still present there, climbed nest & then continued on to Romaine #2 which is still going strong thank, goodness. Returned to camp via Barbed Slough, LT #11, LT #2 this last was found gone the one adult was present. One egg of LT #11 was pipping -

Mahe
1959

Journal

We got back to camp at 4:30, went out at 10:30. Accompanied by Botanist + did considerable collecting en route. In evening made an oven of 5 gallon gas can + baked a cake in it. Turned out well to my surprise. Overcast, windy + cold with snow flurries all day.

July 12 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Overcast, strato cumulus est 4000 feet moving NE in A.M. Crossed river + weighed Parent #3 + Owl #2, LM of Parents was dead. Surprised, there were not the previous warning of this such as bruises on the smaller chick chick, weight loss, etc.

Put up the remaining gages + took chart on the 9th.

Went on rest of round after lunch. Owl #4, Lt. #5, Parent #2 + Owl #3. Found 1 or 2 of the older chicks missing from each nest. Also noted bruises on Lt of the longest nest. Hiked out + picked up fences from Lt 2, Pom 3 + 1 + fenced the 2 Owl nests + put a second fence for the smaller chick at the longest nest.

Snowed during afternoon + evening, calm.

July 13 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Made round of Lt #4, Parent #1, + Pomarine #2. From here went to Barbal Slough + followed it upstream. Found a Brood

Maher
1959

Journal

tibia. Went up Carbon Mt. + found the 2 longtail pairs still present. - Continued up ridge + its highest point where there is a stone cairn + a bench marker. Proceeded on to end of ridge + down to a stream which cuts through it. Located several more Longtail pairs which are plotted on map. Found a fledgling chick which looks like it might be a wagtail on the ridge near its highest part. It was fresh + in good shape, brought it back with me. Returned via same route, picked up scale left in slough, weighed newly hatched chick of pair (L+)# 11. Got back to tent at 5. On way in found a least weasel - ½ to ⅔ grown. Saw one adult. Returned to spot + set 2 live traps after supper. Went on to Oval ridge + watched for an hour. Saw only ♂ of pair # 3. Sun came out at 6 + remained shining until 10 PM. All morning it was cold, windy + snowing. All peaks had snow on them even little Button Carbon Mt.

July 14 Pettingell Camp Alaska

Plane day. Plane didn't come. Stayed in in morning + finished paper for F&P also re copied the whole thing to make it legible. Remained in tent all day: Weather lousy—

Maher
1959

Journal

rain + some sleet. Wind shifted to east in afternoon. Still no sign of a real break in the weather.

After supper weighed Parent #3, + Owl #2, + Owl #3, also checked live traps set for least weasel. Untouched.

July 15 ~~Lutmegua River, Alaska~~.

Plane day #2. Up at 9 A.M. Weighed Parent #2, Longtail 5, + Owl #4. Had lunch + headed out for other round. Weighed Longtail #4 + started for Parent #1. Reached almost to Willow creek when I heard the plane. Cached my pack + returned to camp. Bob main flying, he was alone, so much for FAA coming in. Didn't believe it anyhow. Bob flew up river + returned in an hour or so with Stan. + made a second trip + felled Hank Childs. Both were a bit bushy. It seems they ran out of fuel 3 days before + froze their asses off in all the snow + cold weather.

Fed them a brief supper of hamburgers + potatoes + they departed for Barrow. The plane is due tomorrow bringing Tom Sorable + removing the remaining baloon.

Weather was warm + sunny all day until evening when rain + fog moved in

Mahle
1959

Journal

July 16 Petrnegea River, Alaska. Calm in the morning. Light fog which burned off shortly.

I made a round of the south nests, ie resumed the round interrupted by the planes arrival yesterday. Back at tent by 1 PM. Had a lunch & wrote 6 or 7 letters until 3:30. Then went across the river & ferried Owl nest #2. & weighed passerine #3. As we were walking across her back toward tent we both heard the plane.

Jo arrived with Bob Mann flying & Hal Peyton along sight seeing. After several cups of coffee they took off with the Botanist Carl(?) Stone who has been here since Hank left. It seems Tom Sovalik just came in from the field & wanted a little debushing at Barrow before coming here.

After they were left I made the rounds north & thus got all my nests today except LT#4. I think I'll run them all on the same day from now on & skip one day between. This will allow time for other activities.

July 17 Petrnegea River, Alaska

Fog was in heavy when I got up in the morning. It remained all day getting thicker through the morning and

Maher
1959

Journal

early afternoon. Light rain fell in early afternoon & evening.

I remained about tent all day. Baited & set out 8 traps for Dr. Fischer along ridge line. Set out my own 6 along bottom of slope near tent. Fixed a wire basket for hanging my pellet bags over the stove to dry them. Then worked on my camera recorder - made a new treadle using a micro switch which came in on the one of the cages sent in on the last plane. It seems to work much better. Found that the synchronization didn't work. Took the camera completely apart. Nothing wrong with the circuit, & it finally began working. The contacts may have been wet or something. Hope this doesn't happen when I get set up. Checked traps at 6 & again at 10 PM No mice on ridge. One behind tent. Tee clipped him & released him.

July 18 Putnegea River, Alaska.

I was awakened at 4:00 AM by gusts of wind striking the back of the tent. After a bit they became so strong that I got up & loosened the fly so that it hung in front. This was to keep it from

Maher
1959

Journal

tearing off the front. After this it became evident the gusts were getting stronger, I managed to get the fly up over the back of the tent to protect it somewhat. The wind continued strong with intermittent showers all day. Towards evening it died down. I went for a walk down to falcon rock in the evening. Shot all my line traps on the late round. Boat at mouth 2 times. Departed hulin on east. Vet station.

July 19 Putnegea River

Up at 9 AM. a still, calm, warm day, broken clouds + occasional showers. Made round across river after breakfast. Then round N + finally the south round + so hit all the nests today. Mosquitoes were quite bad, by far the worst they have been here. ~~Started fishing~~

complete round

July 20 Putnegea River, Alaska.

Nice sunny warm day with enough of a breeze to keep mosquitoes down. In morning collected the line traps on ridge + took them to Loon Slough + set them out. Also photographed a few wild flowers + took some movies of the loons + chicks. After lunch made a tour over along N. side of study area + checked on nests 7, 12, + 16, all were quiet

Pictures

Males
1959

Journal

though #7 has moved quite a bit - 1/4 mile perhaps. This means that on the entire study area only 3 tail pieces failed early.) + 2 of these were ones I had fenced.
Only 3 of 5 done fairly + 2 of 3 remains fenced

Two of the 3 remains also failed early.

Watched at end of Ridge II for a while, Remains defending area is gone.

Returned about 6 PM. After supper rechecked live traps + closed them + set out the Spruce trees (5) that have been sealed in near the tent.

Calm warm evening. It threatened rain all afternoon but the clouds remained inland a few miles + no rain fell.

July 21 Petrunegea Basin, Alaska.

Warm relatively calm day. Mosquitos thick. Collected a few plants on bar + pressed some in morning, managed to keep busy, burned garbage + filled in one garbage hole. After noon walked up + set up live traps + then on toward ocean. Saw a Grizzly Bear walking down Flint Ridge. Decided to wait a while before going down. Bear went on west over next long ridge. Watched from Flint Ridge a while. Eiders on water + big flock heading W. + Kings. Found adult + 2 downy

Maher
1959

Journal

Red throated loon on a tiny pond towards cabin by shore. Swallow nest in cabin. Dug for a while in cabin house by the cabin. Remarkably clean for an cabin house, found nothing.

Bear tracks all over beach.

Made butterfly net in evening. Closed traps, nothing caught.

July 22 Petitnegea River, Alaska

A breezy cloudy day. warm. Made complete round of nests. Set line traps + visited Lt #5, Parent # 2, + Owl #4, then crossed river + visited Parent #3, + Owl #2. After lunch made round of Lt #9, #11, Pom #2, Parent #1, + Owl #3 in that order. While walking along Gabal Slough from nest #4 to 11 I found an unusual looking caribou antler. Left it out of the stream to dry + will bring it in one of these days.

Slough-Ox

Visited the presumed Rough-leg nest on slope across willow creek, found nothing but feathers + pellets. Collected the latter.

Back at tent by 6. Closed line traps at 9. Nothing caught.

July 23 Petitnegea River, Alaska.

Set line traps in morning. Windy day in fact blowing a veritable gale. Decided to goof off for the day. Tried to catch insect

Maher
1959

Journal

but found that the wind kept them inactive. About 3 PM or so the plane came. Just when I had decided it wouldn't be in until the 27th. Max Breun was aboard and Tommy Tovalik. Max & Bobby departed for Kotzebue after a cup of coffee. Tommy & I set out 2 squirrel traps & checked my line traps. Closed traps at 9 PM.

At 11 PM, it had been raining for several hours by then, the plane returned with Max & Bobby. More coffee. They departed at 11:45 or so. Rained all night.

July 24 Putnegea River, Alaska.

Spent day trapping squirrels. Morning was windy & cloudy. Wind died down in afternoon when of course the mosquitoes came out. Tried to snare squirrels but they were inactive. Eventually Lawrence trapped 2 in the Have-a-heart traps. Made a cage for one. Snared one on bar but it got away from us. Finally caught 2 muskrats in live traps!!!

July 25 Putnegea River, Alaska

made round of water today. Found marked LT #5, Owl 4, & Parasit #2, this after setting live traps & squirrel traps. Caught

Mahlon
1944

Journal

one squirrel which we picked up on the way in. Made round of LT #4, para #1, Pom #2, LT #11 & Owl #3 & then just before supper I got para #3 & Owl 2. Only one left in latter enclosure, also found one chuck dead in Owl #3. Parent #1 is flying.

Finally topped the last mesa!

July 26 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Cold, windy, foggy, rainy, lousy day. Except for trapping a few squirrels & putting up the skin of a short eared Owl did virtually nothing. The plane did not come.

July 27 Pitmegea River Alaska

Snow flurries, cold, windy. Plane did not come. Set traps in morning wrote a couple of letters then walked up river a couple of miles and returned to tent. After a snack which served as supper I crossed river & walked to shore, then along shore to lagoon, climbed Marmot Ridge went along that to a cairn on a a point & returned overland to tent. Got back at 10 PM.

July 28 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Cold, overcast, not as windy as yesterday. Plane did not arrive. Made round of

Mahler
1959

Journal

July 28 (cont.) all nests. Adult near Willow Creek same Parent #1 has already flown. Did walk up the W. fork of Barbal Slough & found a pair, muddy demonstrations, of Longtails. Has approximately the area of pair 9 missing since I returned to the area from Kodiak trip. Am very skeptical that this is same pair. Lt #5, & Parent # 2 have flown. Most of the ducks are gone. Also no one chick in each enclosure & they should be gone shortly. The only laggard is my permanent chick.

July 29 Putnegea River, Alaska.

No plane. Good day, high overcast to broken. Cleared partly in afternoon. Moderate wind from N NE. Walked to beach & along it for about 3 miles. Checked on nests on far ridge & back to pair seven. Returned to beach at end of long ridge & followed it to pines. Waves have dropped considerably & there is a large amount of flotsam on the beach. One dead ringed seal, part of another, a dead arctic fox, & about a dozen murres. The latter were mostly eaten but I found one entire carcass & brought it back with me. Also brought back the head of the fox. There is little by

May 1959

Journal

way of reminders of civilization in the beach flotsam but I was struck by a plastic toy truck sitting upright against the bluff; bright yellow & red plastic, a few empty bottles & some lumber were about all. In evening walked down bar & up on to tundra hunting shorebirds. Shot one Pectoral Sandpiper, spotted 2 bears on slope this side of Willow Creek. They headed up the creek & were soon out of sight.

July 30 Pitmegea River, Alaska

After breakfast walked out through Loon marsh, West to Canbee Mt. Located LT nests #13 & 10, found pairs. Watched 2 cranes feeding on tundra, apparently hunting mice. Proceeded across Baibal Slough to extension of Ridge III. From here watched pomarine pair for 3 hours. Headed back in at 5 PM. Plane arrived as I started back.

After supper Henry Childs & I set out 4 trap lines. ugh!

Windy day; cleared off before noon — remained clear.

July 31 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Made round of LT #4; Bow 2, CT #11. Helped Hank with his mice. We ran through

Mahlen
1959

Journal

70 miles in 1½ hours, He cutting & I recording
Then headed to beach E. of river for the
Walrus & Oogruk stranded there. These were
reported by Tom Sovalik who found them
yesterday. Took the boat down partway
but the wind-still from NE & strong—
forced us & beat it on a mud bank
in the delta. Walked about 4 miles down
beach. Found one dead Ringed Seal,
a dead baby Walrus, & a dead Oogruk. The
Oogruk had been shot in the head & skull
smashed. We removed head of ringed seal—
a large, old, specimen. Also took the walrus head, the fouliest, mess I've ever seen.

Got back to tent a little after 8 PM.

Saw 2 very small bull along beach, my first in all the time I've been in the north.

Aug 1 ~~Kotzuegea River, Alaska~~

~~made record of~~ Did little today except help clean out the tent, boil out & clean the walrus head & the ringed seal head. In evening went for a long walk to beach & a mile or more down. No new carcasses have come in. Picked up a piece of ply wood & lugged it back, also the fox head I left & dry on one of the hummocks a few

Mabee
1959

Journal

days ago. Day was windy but clear for second day in a row. Sun set about 11:30.

Aug 2 Pitmegea River, Alaska

Warm day, clear, wind has dropped some. Some mosquitoes were out & a few bees & butterflies. Walked out & Ridge III & (S. of Canbon Mt.) & watched Pomarine pair #2 for 3 hours. Returned to tent at 5 PM. In evening helped Hank more his trap lines.

Aug 3 Pitmegea River, Alaska.

In morning we set out trap lines. I set 2 & Hank 2. Beautiful day. Noticed whales blowing at mouth of river as I came in. In afternoon went to 3 remaining nests. LT #4 has gone, other 2 remain. Clear, warm day, still a NE breeze blowing.

Aug 4 Pitmegea River, Alaska.

Another beautiful day, relatively still warm clear. Breeze from NE. Spent day plotting nest locations on aerial photos, & dragging in my fences. Got the 2 parasitic & owl nest accross river, then LT #6, 7, 5 & Parasit 2 & the owl nest. After supper walked upstream & to Willow Creek & up to LT #1. Returned to tent at 10:30 PM.

Maher
1959

Journal

Aug 5 Petroglyph Pool, Alaska.

Another beautiful day, warm, slight breeze + clear, breeze continues from NE. Plotted locations of several nests (Lt # 12, 16, 3, 2, + Ad # 3.) Could not locate Lt # 1 nest. I found the flag stick with the flag down + lying next to it, lying some distance from the area I knew the nest was located in. The only explanation I can think of is that it was dragged by a wolf, holding it by the flag as there were no teeth marks on the stake, who finally tore the flag off + abandoned the whole thing.

The river is lower than before - only a few inches in the riffle of camp. The salmon are in a hard way. Trapped by the impassable riffle above camp 200 yds, the area from there down + past camp is choked with them.

In evening walked down E side delta to shore + along to the lagoon, followed along the lagoon shore a mile or more.

Very still evening, ocean like glass, clouds moving in from north. A group of Grey Whales were feeding off the shore from the river delta + along the coast for 2 miles E

Whales

Maher
1959

Journal

They were 1/4 to 1 mile offshore. Several cows + calves in the group. Hard telling how many there were, ~~since~~ I estimated about a dozen tho more may have been involved.

Returned to tent at 11:30 PM.
Wind changed + ~~15~~ 5 at midnight.

Aug 6 Putnegan River Alaska.

Warm relatively still in the morning partly cloudy. It rained some last night but quite before morning. Helped Henry pull in his trap lines. Mosquitos were fierce, the darn things actually seem inhibited by sunlight so that yesterday which was warm + still as today, + sunny, there were not many out. Today however they swarmed. They were the worst I've seen here, though at the Garlach line they are that thick continuely. Made final net round in afternoon. Lt #11 was gone. The pomarine chuck was present but well advanced. He should be gone in 2-3 days.

Aug. 7 Putnegan River, Alaska.

Spent morning packing, burning our trash etc. in preparation for the plane. It didn't come. Nice warm

Maher
1959

Journal

day.

Walked down to shore after lunch. A party from Richfield Oil landed there with a Widgeon + a super pipe cruiser or something on floats. They are camping near the old cabin at the coast.

Swallows nest

We measured the swallow nest in the cabin, (2 1/2 x 4 1/2 inches) & photographed the cabin. There was an enormous flock of Kittiwakes on the bar, a conservative estimate of 1+2000 of them, many immatures.

After supper 2 of the 3 oil men came up to visit, we chatted for a couple of hours then went to their place for a couple of beers. Back by midnight. A beautiful calm evening. Flocks of Murres were passing along shore heading East. They went by for 2 hours almost continuously. Kittiwakes about a few Glaucous Gulls. A few eskalos were feeding offshore.

Aug 8-16 Peters Lake, Alaska.

Hank + I were finally picked up on the 11. I did little in the interval of waiting except read, cook, mope + bitch, etc..

On the morning of 11 I walked to the pomarine nest. Found that the chick was gone, parents still about. Judging

Mabes
1959

Journal.

by the amount of pellet material I decided he left on the 10th. Shortly after I returned the plane arrived. While Bobby ferried our stuff to Ly A. We cleaned up the campsite pretty well. Finally left at 2.30, refueled at Ly A & continued to Barrow.

Spent the 12 helping Hank with his specimens. He had sent in about 150 invertebrates with Bobby Fisher to be frozen until he could process them at Barrow. Unfortunately they were forgotten for several days & were in awful shape when we worked on them.

First thing on morning of 12 Hank & I hauled 2 whale heads to the lab. One a mature whale & the other a calf. These were 2 of the 3 Gray Whales killed by the natives a few weeks ago. I spent the 13, 14, & 15 cleaning the smaller skull. Boiled it in a large tank using a steam point. Cleaned the thing pretty well & reassembled it in Sea Bee building. Finished it in afternoon of 15.

One of Otto Deets' assistants, Paul, purchased a pair of ear muffs in Barrow that evening for $10.00. They turned out to be the pair from the skull as I have

Mch
1959

Journal

a complete skull. Lane we see now how it is received down south.

At any rate. I packed that evening + got off in late morning 3/16 (Sunday).

Lake Peters

Reached Peters Lake by about 3 PM.

John Hobbie left on down later on the same plane which in the meantime went to Okpilak + back. I got all his gaiger + shrub information before he left.

Walked to first shrub nest + collected pellets - then up alluvial fan to where Harry Brower slaughtered some sheep this spring. The skulls + bones were pretty well ground up by bears. I picked up a horn + a lower jaw but that was all.

After supper went in a boat with Eb Clark to the 2 gaiger nests.

A beautiful calm evening. The sun was hidden behind the mountains. (It went down at 6:30) At 10 PM a gibbous moon came over the peaks at the S. end of the peters canyon. This presented a beautiful picture. The mountains - some snow capped, - rise straight up from the sides of Peters, in the dim evening light they looked cold + grey - the large orang moon hanging over this was magnificent. All this was reflected in the lake surface so we paraded back

May
1959

Journal

to camp. arrived 10.30 P.M. Talked until midnight + went to sleep.

Birds seen:

4 Ravens

1 Wheatear

Pipit - flock of 14-16 on alluvial fan. Singles commonly.

Jaegers.

Whistler creek pair, both dark, one chick.

Coke Creek pair, 1 dark, 1 light, 2 chicks.

jaeger chicks could fly well.

Aug. 17 Peters Lake, Alaska

Camp was aroused at 7.00 A.M by Frank Leavitt who was doing the cooking. Clear, calm day. After breakfast took one boat + began visiting the shore nests. They are distributed around the lake in the few tall willows which grow along the streams tumbling down the fans. Visited one across the lake (#2) Eb Clark showed me the location. Then visited #7 across the lake again on the camp side. After lunch visited #5 on head end of lake and finally #6 on N. end of lake. Spent an hour looking for the last one. Access from it was a small lake on a terrace above Peters. Visited this on way in

Mahe
1959

Journal

a 4 pintail & 6 small ducks were swimming on it, also 2 Red Th. Loons. Reached camp at 6.30 PM. Sun was already behind mountains, chilly.

Should describe the camp. It ~~is not~~ situated near S. end of lake on a large alluvial fan. The camp site is at the edge on a portion of the fan which has been shoved up into a ridge some 10 feet above lake level. The soil is ~~here~~ coarse gravel & sand, good spot to build. Camp consists of one runaway, a plywood coal shed, generator house, & a small plywood building put up by RCL. They have such luxuries as a washing machine a refrigerator, small bombardier, out house, etc.

There are 5 men here now: Frank Liddle an older man in charge. He is a retired colonel in the Canadian army, he has been in the north for 35 years has specialized in communications & he runs the radio here. There are 2 meteorologists keeping a 24 hr. weather station & 2 geologists.

Aug 18 Peters Lake, Alaska.

Wind was from the south when we got up. The temperature was 55°F, warm. High thin cirrus clouds. After breakfast I skeletonized a few specimens picked up yesterday. Then took

14 aug
1959

Journal.

one of the boats & crossed to the fan below the pass" over to Whistler Creek. The top of the pass was 2000 feet above the lake & went almost straight up. I found it a hard climb. The drop off at the top was just as bad. Watched a Microtus muricus for a while in the pass. Took 2 pictures. Heard a Marmot also. Dropped down to Whistler Creek. Could not locate the shrike nest there. Walked on down stream. This valley is much like that with the lake in it except that it lacks the lake. It is narrow, the walls are perpendicular & snow capped. It is pretty, if anything it is narrower than Peters. Picked up the horn of a young sheep near creek. Could not locate the nest of other shrike on this creek, rounded mountains at end of lake - passed the small lake again & walked on up W. side of Peters to the boat. Back at camp by 5:30 or so.

7 Sheep on mountains across lake yesterday morning. A ♀ one calf, a ♀ 2 calves, & 2 other adults.

Aug 19 Peters Lake, Alaska

Our turn to cook today. Up at 7 AM & got breakfast ready by 8:00. Bob Mann who remained overnight was already up

Pictures

Maher
1959

Journal

getting his aircraft ready. Beautiful morning.
Bob left at about 9 A.M. saying he would return on the 21 at earliest.
Baked a cake before noon, no vanilla in camp so used lemon juice for flavor. Unfortunately the acid in the juice reacted with the leavening & caused rather large amount of bubbles to evolve. It turned out fair - actually a bit on the soggy side.
We were invited down to the Union Oil camp for supper. It was pretty well clouded over when we started, by 10 P.M. or so it began to rain & 3 of us headed back. Rain began at 12:30 or so.
Saw 10 sheep on hills on W. side of lake on way down. They were at the 5000 foot level - near peak.
Union boys had shot a Dall Sheep, the head & skin were in a sack, the meat hanging up wrapped in gauze. Didn't look like an "eclipse" job.

Aug 20 Peters Lake.

Explored the lake today using the out board motor. Stopped off at N. end of Peters at spot I picked for possible archeological site. The site is on passageway between the lakes. The water is deep right

(Mahler
1959

Journal

to the shore at this point & there is a remnant of a moraine which rises 20 feet above the lake. There are signs of recent campers on shore below moraine. On top of moraine I picked up a black shale scraper blade. It was some 4 inches long & 2½ K 3 wide & oval shaped. I found it by a 30" hole dug by a geologist & soil man. Don't know ~~from~~ ~~dug~~ ~~to~~ ~~at~~ what depth it came. Found nothing else but a few bone fragments on the surface. Proceeded to Lake Jan then to exit from shrader lake — a large rapid, boulder filled stream. Walked around a bit. The shores of shrader are vastly different from those of Peters & in passing from one lake to the other one makes the transition from the mountains to the foothills & the shores here are rounded hills covered with what looks like typical foothill tundra vegetation. Returned to Peters & check other site found by Ed Mueller at N end of lake Jan on NE side of lake. Many many bone fragments in the gravel along shore & embedded in the peat to a depth of 6-8 inches. No sign of recent habitation. Here may be an old site — had the oil crowd down for quite

Mahlen
1959

Journal

in the evening.

Aug 21 Peters Lake, Alaska.

On return yesterday I found my artifact-scraper blade - missing. Returned this morning & ate where I had eaten an orange on lake fan. I remembered taking it from my pocket there. Could not find it tho I searched the area several times. Then discovered that my right front parka pocket had a large hole & decided that I might have lost it that way. Too bad.

After lunch went up Carnivore Creek at head of Peters with Dr. Chase. We collected a couple of sacks of rock lichens for Ed Mueller who wants them for Dr. Llano.

Aug 22 Peters Lake, Alaska

Do not remember this day in detail. In morning wrapped the Shrike pellets in toilet paper, packed specimens etc. In evening went to N. end of lake & checked small lake for birds - the female & 6 chicks were still present, also the male. Finally concluded that they are white-winged Scoters.

Aug 23-25 Peters Lake, Alaska

Spent the last 3 days simply waiting

Naha
1959

Journal

for the plane. The 24th was a miserable day. Rain + snow all day. Poor flying weather to say the least. The rumor oil people down at the ~~Fan~~ end of Schrader Lake left ~~Lake~~ on that day.

Jule Thibdeau + a sheep hunter from Florida showed up — without camping gear + spent 2 days with us. Jule flew to Barter on Monday + picked up their gear which arrived that day from Fairbanks. The 2 left for sheephunting on the Hula Hula the next day.

I cooked on the 25, which was a fairly nice day — cleared gradually + by evening was perfectly clear. ~~Rumours~~ of a plane coming in kept us interested most of the day. It didn't.

Location of femur of Hammuthus picked up by Dick Lyons of Union Oil: Canning River at Lat. 69°40'± on first terrace above river, right on edge of bank, W. bank. He thought it deposited there by high water

Aug 26 Peters Lake, Alaska

Plane arrived late in the day + took Lw. Rose, Charles Lewis, + an eskimo to Barter Island. Lewis + the eskimo arrived on the plane that day.

Make
1959

Journal

Aug 27 Peters Lake, Alaska.

Bob Main remained overnight at Peters. On 27 he made 2 shuttle flights to Barter Island with the gear from the Peters flight. Late that afternoon he loaded up & took Ed Mueller & myself to Barrow. Spent the morning helping to move equipment into AEC building for storage and painting the building with yellow paint. The outside coat. On 26 we had moved tons of ration into the building & finished up the prime coat on all 3 of the buildings.

Arrived at Barrow in evening about dark time.

Found Kodiak Bird. MS waiting for me. It was already late & return to condor on deadline - Make. I looked at it that evening but went to bed instead.

Aug 28 Barrow Alaska.

Spent morning going over manuscript. After lunch went into field with Mike Daniels & Dick Holmes. Visited 2 ponsana nests located in Barrow area. No birds seen found until mid July & only one had been fenced. Picked up pellets. In evening finished up abstract of paper.

Maley
1959

Journal

Aug 29 Barrow, Alaska.

Honey O'Sullivan typed abstract in morning & I finally got it in mail that day. Should arrive in Berkeley on Monday. Not too late I hope. Threatened to send John O'Sullivan myself to Kodiak. Got packed & ready. Flight canceled. Weather lousy

Aug 30 Kodiak Town, Alaska

Finally got off the ground after lunch. John O'Sullivan accompanied me. Bob Mann flew us in in wheel plane 04E. River was down & bar O.K. My tent & outfit from early July was still on the bar. The tent had collapsed but everything was in good shape. We re-erected the tent & moved in.

Picked up pellets of parasitic near camp while waiting for the plane to return with second load. Trapline back out in evening.

Aug 31 Kodiak River, Alaska.

In AM John & I carried the food load up to Big Sister Lake, assembled same & cruised about it sounding the bottom. The lake proved to have 2 deep parts 17 & 18 feet respectively but the bulk of it was 5-8 feet deep.

Picked up lake basin parasitic pellets before returning to tent. In evening went up to Elephant Bluff & poked around.

Maley
1959

Journal

Sept 1 Kaolak River, Alaska.

Walked down river to amber bluffs — east to bluffs at far bend & back over land. Cloudy drizzly day. Picked up nests encountered along route. The Glaucous Gulls had abandoned their nest apparently, a disappointment. Ran upland line on way in & tussock beach line after eating.

Sept 2 Kaolak River, Alaska

In A M John & I walked to lake to retrieve sled boat. I ran lines first and went around by nest on little sixth island. Carried boat back to tent by 1 P M. In afternoon retrieved last of nests.

Trap lines were due to be picked up in evening. Ran line & left them out instead.

Sept 3 Kaolak River, Alaska.

Picked up trap lines first thing. Packed & got all ready to go. Waited about tent all afternoon. Plane didn't show. In evening walked up E. fork to first outcrop.

Sept 4 Kaolak River Alaska.

Cold, ice on water bucket in morning. Low clouds, fog, snow. Remained in bed reading. Impossible to keep tent warm. Remind me to tell the lab that

17 ahen
1959

Journal

bungalow tents are the best for the late season here.

Sept 5 Barrow, Alaska.

Plane arrived at 9:45 or so. We were just having breakfast. Day cold with snow flurries. Packed + left caching all gear except our own stuff + specimens. Back at Barrow by lunch time. In afternoon talked to Brewer, got started on seal heads, tied them in bags, numbered them, etc.

In evening went to the O'Sullivans for drinks + music.

Sept 6 Barrow, Alaska

Sunday. 2 inches of snow on ground in morning. Have mostly passed day chatting with Art Lachenbruch + others. Did finish "bagging" Eignathus heads, pickled gonads of some specimens, and brought these notes up to date.

The icebreaker got in to Barrow this afternoon with Don Stevens, now 2 weeks late for wedding.

Pitmegea River, Alaska
Plover Nests
1959

GP 6/18
GP
GP 6/14
6/13 RT
6/16 ? GP
RT 6/16
6/16 GP
GP 6/21
GP 6/23
LOON MARSH
TUSSOCKS
GP 6/16
OWL RIDGE
Cover
Cover
Cover
GP 6/18
6/20
CAMP
PITMEGEA RIVER
6/15 GP
GP 6/15
GP 6/17
N
P
LAGOON

Maher
1959

Fat categories of Jaegers

V. Heavy: Fat deposit - heavy - in abdominal cavity
Thick fat layer on abdomen 1/8 - 1/4" thick
Heavy fat on breast = 1/8" thick.

Heavy: Small amt fat in abdominal cavity
Fat layer on abdomen 1/16 → 1/8" thick
Little fat on breast - along feather tract
+ less than 1/8" thick

Moderate: None in abdominal cavity
Thin layer - broken - + less than 1/8" on abdomen.
Thin layer - ± 1/8" on breast feather tracts

Light

None

Mahr
1959

Gavia stellata

May 26 Petinegea Cove three red throated loons in delta of river.

May 27 4 swimming in water outside of river mouth. Earlier there was a pair swimming + calling on river. Flew off downstream, may have been 2 of these.

June 13 Petinegea - pair on small pond between ridges 2 + 3 west of camp.

June 15 Mod loon counting today. Bedlam from river + delta area periodically all day. Saw one pair on river 1 mile upstream in evening. Pair landed somewhere in ~~Loon~~ Loon marsh during day - or yesterday.

June 17 #1 Nest with 2 eggs on small pond where pair was seen on June 13. Pictures of nest. Both adults flew off when I approached pond. One - ♀(?) waited until I was at nest to leave pond. She was well hidden did not see her at all until she surfaced + took off.

June 18 #2 Nest with one egg on small pond at w. edge of camp ridge. Pond arrowhead shape roughly 60 x 40 feet. Loon caved barely got off even with breeze blowing.

June 19 Checked again at 6 PM still one egg.

June 20 Checked at 6:45 PM - 2 eggs. adult gone, eggs cool, adult returned as I was leaving - circled + called a couple of times then flew off.

Maley
1959

Dacnis stillata

June 20 (Cont.)

Nest #3, 2 eggs on edge of pond 100 x 15 yds in size. On ~~E~~ East side of river

Nest #4, 2 eggs - edge of lake 100 x 20 yards. West side of river.

Nest #5, 2 eggs, on mound of muck & peat erected by the loons about ~~2~~ 1 feet out of the water & 2 feet in diameter, situated about 25 feet from the shore of the lake in a zone of Utricularia fulva.

Nest #6, 2 eggs. - an empty nest bowl was found just some 50 feet ~~E~~ along lake edge from nest.

In all above cases parents left the lake when I was 200-300 yards away. In no case were both bird present. Nest #2 no bird was present & eggs were cool. Absence of adults may have been due to caribou which were grazing in that area.

One returned while I was leaving nest, flew about calling & then left.

June 22 Nest #2, bird incubating at 1:30 PM. Hank Childs reports a second, empty, bowl on same pond.

June 23 Loon appeared incubating at N. end pond. Nest locale. Other spied loon submerged on far side. at 11:25. Both swimming on pond at 11:47. One began incubating at 3:55. Both remained on

Maher
1959

Gavia stellata

June 23 (cont.) one incubating until 5:45 when one flew. Other remained incubating when I left a few minutes later.

June 25 Found 2 nests today on ponds upstream from camp on bend of the river. The first is opposite Pipestone eyrie & the second in lake above Giant Willow Stream. Didn't flush the first. Second had 2 eggs. Her reaction interesting - She, or it, let me approach to 20 feet - closest Jiv ever gotten to a Red Th. Loon on nest. Then took off with a rush straight across pond & into the air. Its feet dragged the tops of polygons a few times & then it crashed on the tundra, stuck its head up & looked back at me then started struggling on again. It must have got off alright because it was on the pond when I passed by there again.

June 26 Nest w 2 eggs on tiny pond over by Pomarine ridge 1c NW of Pomarine #1

July 11 Nest #2 still being incubated, 2 eggs

July 12 Nest #2 - 2 eggs, bird at nest.

July 17 Chicks out - 2 - small & fluffy no more than a couple of days old.

July 21 Found one adult & 2 downy chicks on a small pond near the cabin by the shore. Pond measured approx 18 x 30 feet, the smallest Jiv seen loons on -

Mader
1959

Gavia stellata

July 31 Located another nest today on a tiny pond about 15 x 30 feet along S edge of Loon marsh. 150 yds from SW corner of Hanko cabin plot. Two chicks and one adult were on the pond, one chick had obviously just eaten a fish, its throat was enormously distended.

The adult attempted to fly, fell into the weeds about ten feet from edge, sculled itself back by using wings & then tried again. This time it got off.

Aug 2 Pair on Loon Pond beyond Ridge II have 2 small chicks, not failed as reported above. Chicks are smaller than other pairs I've seen.

(OK. JSH) Aug 1 A loon in winter plumage seen in mouth of river. Presume it is this species, couldn't see bill clearly.

Aug 4 On Loon pond near parasite #3, across river, saw 2 chicks, downy, one seemed noticeably larger than the other.

Aug 6 Pond near cabin estimated 35 x 20 feet 200 yds from edge of river bluff. The 2 loon chicks have worked their way this distance & down to river & were swimming there w parents.

Mahey
1959

Gavia arctica

May 25 Tom Cade reported seeing one while Tebuing a cap.

June 15 One arctic loon on small pond in upper Loon slough drainage. Better check this.

June 25 Two seen in delta in evening.

Mahen
1919

Phalacrocorax pelagicus

July 29 Petrovegas Point

One seen swimming near shore a few miles W. of river mouth.

Maher
1954

Anser albifrons

May 22 Petitmegea Cmer. - Few have been seen since we arrived here, usually flying in pairs, occasionally singly. Perhaps 12-16 all told.

May 23. Two pair seen - seperately - on E side of river + 1 mile upstream.

May 26 One single bird flew by me in delta of river. Later saw 4 geese presumably the same flying over the delta.

Chen hyperborea
is now
Chen caerulescens
per AOU 1998

Mabee
1959

Glen Hyperborea

May 22 Petitmuges River -

2 seen flying upstream past tent on evening of May 20

Two seen on snow bank by river on afternoon of May 21

Twenty ± snow geese this morn - flew by headed W. across tundra.

May 23 Flock of 20 this morning flew up river. A flock of 10 feeding along edge of grassy vegetation in one bend of river - mile upstream from camp.

Another group of 10 on tundra on E side of river. Flew across river at our approach. Noted some with rusty brown heads + necks in the latter flock

May 26 A flock of 21 were on the gravel bar at the mouth of the river. They finally flew when I got too close. Headed W. Tom saw a flock of 25 or so upstream near Gyrfalcon nest. He scared them downstream. There was a flock feeding on the tundra ½ mile inland from boat which may have been this one

May 27 Flock of 30-35 have been settled on tundra across river all day.

Maher
1959

Branta canadensis
Canada Goose

May 24 Petitsegea River.

5 in a small flock flew upriver circled across river then turned and headed W. over tundra along coast.

Wales
1959

Cygnus columbianus

June 4 Umiat - 7 PM I - A pair of Swans circled the air strip - flew 1 mile toward Alligator ridge & landed on small Oxbow lake.

Maher
1959

Mareca americana
Baldpate

May 23 One seen in group of 60? Pintail flying downstream. Later we flushed 6 or seven from willow covered bar a mile upstream. They were with 12-14 pintail

May 27 Three seen - a ♂ & 2 ♀ - in delta.

June 23 A female Baldpate was seen at Loon Pond beyond Ridge II today. This bird was seen in the same neighborhood about 4-5 days ago. White shoulder or fore edge of upper wing & dark speculum - general gray appearance to bird.

Flushed from pond at 2:20. Returned at 3:22. ♂ pintail was with bird as she sat on the water of a little pond few yards from Leon Pond. Flew to Loon pond - then to shore of pond - then back to pond & hid in weeds. Few minutes later (about 10) she flew off.

June 24 ♀ flew past me on Ridge II at 4:30 PM or so. Only sign of her today.

Mareca americana
is now

Anas americana
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Anas platyrhynchos
Mallard.

May 23 Pair of ducks believed to be this species flew downstream about lunch time.

May 24 Three in a group seen flying downstream about 12:30 PM

May
1959

Spatula clypeata

May 29 Petitpas Pond. One male observed on small lake near river mouth.

Spatula clypeata
is now
Anas clypeata
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Anas acuta

May 22 Pitmegea River. Seen frequently since we've been here. Groups of 2 + up to 17 or 20. Predominantly males. Few pairs of male + female seen.

May 23 Continue to be abundant. Flock of 12-15 seen occasionally this day. Also smaller groups + pairs. Some of these may be the same flocks moving up + down the river by camp. They are still however the commonest duck seen.

May 25 Few pair seen on tundra. They seem well spread out.

May 26 Still ubiquitous for a duck. Noted a flock of 6. Several pairs were seen in the delta + about on the tundra — a total of perhaps 6.

May 27 Still common. Saw a fantastic performance this afternoon. A female + 2 males flew over head. The female was making duck ~~[illegible]~~ grunts. Quenk Quenk — Quenk Quenk — etc. One male was flying close to her. The other was company — he flew along ~~[illegible]~~ arcing from side to side with the male a foot or 2 from her matching every swing. As they flew along other males kept flying straight up from the tundra so that in the 1/4 - 1/2 mile from her passage ~~[illegible]~~ the 5 other males had joined

Meloy
1959

Anas acuta

there making a grand total of 8 birds. Only the one male kept close to key, the others soon milled around them - kept moving, female kept calling. The all finally descended on far side of river. Don't know what in hell this means. Reminded me of the mating flight of the honey bee.

June 4 Barrow - 1 seen flying along lead - east inland seen no at Barrow. First pintail seen by Myers & Daniel at Barrow.

June 13 Pintails.

Few still about in pairs I saw make 6 pairs all day. Saw one group of 4 males.

June 15 Few pair are still about - see perhaps a half dozen a day - ♂♂ & ♀ flying, or on small tundra ponds.

June 17 Nest with 3 eggs, in an area of tussock tundra at S. end of Ridge II, 100 yards E of ridge. The nest was tucked among 3 tussocks. Picture!

In addition I noted down 4 pair seen, one on pond behind Tent Ridge, 1 on partial slough, pair on Loon Pond, & a pair on far slough now called Bunnin Slough

June 21 Nest above mentioned has 3 eggs. ♀ flushed at 100 yards - flew up quacking, landed 10 feet

Maher
1959

Anas acuta

ahead, flew up again a short distance + repeated this ~~set~~ routine approaching, flying + landing, ~~circling~~ circling to reach up to watch me + then flying again.

June 23 — ♀ Pintail rested by edge of Loon Pond for an hour + then flew off again.

July 10 — Female pintail about Loon Slough opposite Badger II. Saw one here on last round. She did a lot of flying around me + I suspect she has a brood but couldn't spot it on any of the little ponds.

Aug 5 — 4 Pintail flew along coast + into delta on evening.

Flock of 25 headed west along coast in evening

4 Pintail flying west along coast a little later.

In afternoon 3 were seen on pond along Loon Slough. Didn't fly, hid in weeds, looked like almost grown chicks.

Aug 7 — About 10 PM flock of 25 Pintail came heading W. along shore, turned + landed in delta.

Mahe
1959

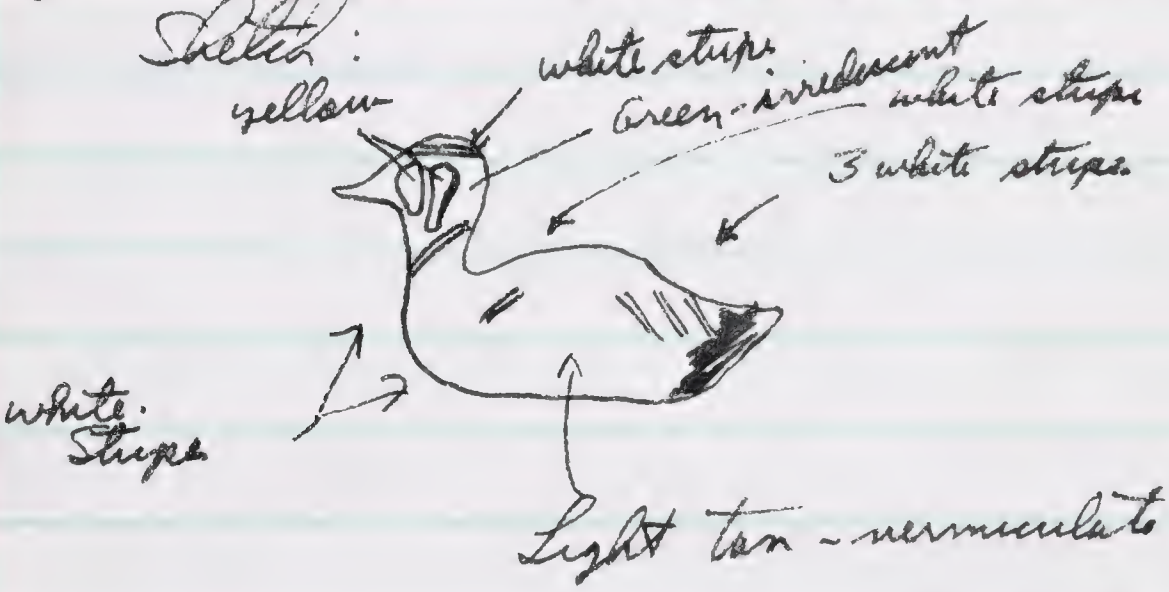
Anas formosa

May 28 Petuneya River, n. Alaska.

Sighted a pair of formosa or Baikal Teal this evening. Flushed them together from a small stream a mile upstream from camp. They flew across the river to a bar on opposite shore where I had a good view of them. She moved again 200 yds S. on same side & I watched them there for a while again. They then flew upstream. I made sketch of the male upon reaching the tent.

Tom & I then went back with a gun but couldn't locate the birds.

Sketch:



Feet yellow — duck of mard-duck size & build.

Female was tan-brown.

Muka
1959

Anas carolinensis
Green-winged Teal

June 20 Two ♂♂ flew from small lake on east side of river delta.

Anas carolinensis
is now
Anas crecca
per AOU
1998

Mabel
1959

Polysticta stelleri

June 20 Petrnegea River.

A flock of 20 male stellers eider were resting on an island in the delta. They flew at my approach.

Aug 5 Flock of 25 moulting stellers, most appeared to be in eclipse along shore. reluctant to fly, I swam out from shore as 8 approached. were later flushed by a passing airplane.

Maher
1959

King Eider

July 21 Appeared to be a flight of King going west along coast Bday. Saw a flock of 100+ of them which landed on water off the river mouth. Near by on water was a flock of 50+ of the same species. Their identification based on amount of white on wings. Flocks were almost 100% male.

July 27 Six male kings flying W. along shore in evening. A windy evening with large waves. Not a good night for eiders to fly.

Aug 5 Flock of 125 ± flying along coast heading west in evening. Calm evening.

Somateria
spectabilis

Maher
1909

Common Eider

July 20 Two flocks of about 30 and a number of scattered individuals were on ocean off river mouth today. Most of them were common eider (Some might be Spectacled)

Aug 1 5 Pacific Eider resting on edge of lagoon at mouth of river. Saw one here yesterday evening.

Maher
1959

Hesperiornis Gastronomicus

June 12 Potamogeton Pond Pair flew by me heading down river at 7 PM.

June 15 Saw 3 males & one female on river in evening - a mile upstream from camp. Two males landed. were joined by a male & female - made courting until the mated male established the order of things then quieted down. all 4 swam to gravel bar & rested at edge of water.

June 20 1 ♂ & 2 ♀♀ were seen flying along ocean shore past the delta. A little later 3 ♂♂ & 2 ♀♀ were seen flying down river.

Aug 7 7 harlequins in delta. Flushed up & flew to ocean. All were dark brown with 2 white spots on head, one (larger) at base of bill before eye, one smaller & higher behind eye. ♀'s according to Peterson.

Maher
1959

Clangula hyemalis

May 27 Pitmegea River. Heard one call distinctly from river this morning before I got up. Have not seen or heard it since but the call is unmistakable.

June 14 Pitmegea. Have been hearing them occasionally since we arrived back here (afternoon of June 12)

Saw a pair along Willow Creek, flew up stream, male calling, landed on water & drifted downstream a ways. Then flew off towards river.

June 17 Old squaw male flew up river this A.M. A female was seen on pond just over tent ridge yesterday evening on way in.

June 20 Flock of 21 Old squaw were in mouth of river. I saw a lone female on one of the several lakes E of the delta. a couple flying up river during the day

July 21 Flock of 80+ Old Squaw in delta of Pitmegea River.

July 27 Small flock of a dozen or so in delta of river in evening.

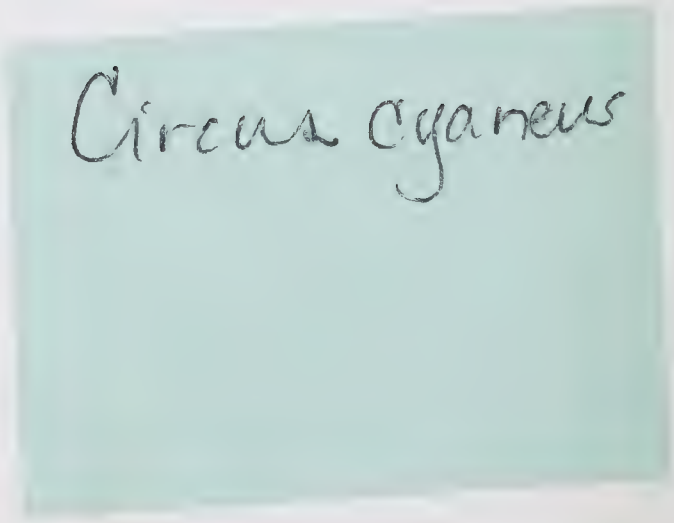
Mahan
1959

Red-breasted Mergansers

July 5 Five mergansers, 3 ♀ + 2 ♂ flew by camp upriver in morning

July 24 Four ♀ mergansers on river near delta.

Mergus serrator


Circus cyaneus

Maher
1959

marsh Hawk

June 12 Putnegen River: One adult female seen foraging along river & over tundra. Cade & I saw one here on last visit though I didn't note it.

June 13 Saw one again mile or so west of camp. Same bird I believe.

June 15 Marsh hawk again seen hunting over river bend mile upstream on E. side. Caught something flew & landed somewhere on bend. Caved & he nesting?

June 16 2 marsh Hawks seen quite often during day. Along Bear ridge & Barbal Slough drainage & coming S. of there. Covers the area quite well. Also seen on Ridge III B.

June 17 Two 2 marsh hawks were cruising along river edge this morning. Saw one or the other of them several times during day.

June 19 One seen a couple of times ~~today~~. Once along W side Camp ridge. Also seen yesterday a couple of times.

June 25 Saw one along river, a ♀

July 20 One marsh Hawk hunting over edge willow flats in upper Lean Slough drainage.

July 27 One seen on slope above river near Willow Creek.

Aug 4 Flushed ♀ marsh Hawk from willows along river ½ mile upstream.

Maher
1959

Buteo jamaicensis

July 29 Catamezca Pass.

Flushed a buteo from ~~along~~ bluffs along ocean. When it first flew I was convinced I saw a red tail but it flew straight away from me & never gave me a second look. It was chased by an owl, a short ear, as it flew

Maher
1959

Buteo lagopus

May 21 Petinegea River - One individual, a very light one, was seen in encounter w/ Gyrfalcon - (see appearance). Late in afternoon it was seen circling one area on west side of river.

May 23 Four of these seen ranging over first rocky ridge upstream on E. side. All 4 of plumage according to Code. One showed moult of inner primaries.
There was some aggressive behavior between 2 in the air. Possibly courting.

May 25 Half dozen males seen along stream mile 5. of camp. They are not yet territorial, I saw one display, also saw 2 or 3 others and one Rock Ptarmigan associated together. Breeding seems to yet to be majority.

May 26 Saw one flying downstream in late afternoon. Crossed river from E to W.

May 28 Pair located near high steep slope along stream 1½ miles up from camp. No nest sign yet but both adults called & screamed & circled over one particular part of the bluff.

May 26 Pete Sowbl saw a Rough-leg along cliffs south of the Village

June 13 Petinegea - One screaming near where pair located above no nest

Maher
1959

Buteo lagopus

the bird screaming was apparently the female. She came over to me when I was on hillside they were interested in last time but she confined most of her circling + screaming to the other side of the river. No sign of mate.

July 15 Saw one on campridge at Loon Slough. Flew off over river.

July 18 This pair not present at Falcon eyrie this evening.* I do not think they bred there at all this year. * were present when Hank & I walked there

July 20 One bird along near shore about where owls were located.

July 22. There are 2 adjacent soliftuction scars, fresh, on slope across Willow Creek. There has been a pair of Rough-legs hanging about there fall season-today I decided they must be nesting, though the site seemed unlikely. Found however that they were not nesting. However they have been roosting + feeding + defecating etc. Picked up a couple of bags of pellets. They are of all sizes but I presumed that with the Rough-legs there they would be all Rough-leg pellets. The adults defended the area as if it were a nest - Circled over me + screamed continuously all the while I was in the area.

Haber
1959

Aquila chrysaetos

May 29 Pelmegea River. One adult seen flying high on east side of river, heading S-E over hills.

Mahey
1959

Falco rusticolus

May 21 Petinegea Creek. One falcon seen with Rough-leg high over area across river. We heard a cry + saw the 2 close together the Gyr. had apparently made a pass at the Rough-leg. It then flew straight off upstream. There no an eyrie up there about 2 miles.

May 23 Visited eyrie mentioned above. Eyrie is situated on a small ledge — 2 x 3 or 3.5 feet + just 3 feet from very top of cliff. Nest an old raven nest apparently — a heap up stick nest. The eggs actually are on bare sandy spot in ledge + only fragments of above nest remain on one edge of ledge. Took 2 pictures. Tom Cade removed one egg for albumen sample. It proved to be addled.

Cliff 35-40 feet high.

~~Male~~ of this pair very white underneath. Female dark. Pete Savaloh collected young + ~~female~~ last year — so this is a new bird. Female sat on eggs until we forced a rope over the cliff when she burst out. The male stooped at her once — almost striking. It seemed. Female very reluctant to return to nest. We left after watching a while from a point 300 yds upstream from nest. She didn't return then.

May 26 Tom Cade collected the last 3 eggs - all were addled

Maher
1959

Lagopus lagopus

May 15 Barrow, Alaska -
Saw tracks of 2 ptarmigan on tundra at south end of central marsh - Fresh only one or 2 days old.

May 16 Barrow
Several seen on drive River trip. One 16 miles S. of village - a ♂. And 10 at the river. A group of 7, & another of 3. See itinerary for more details:

May 25 Half a dozen males seen along stream one mile south of camp. Do get breeding seems to be frequent among them. Saw only one display. Saw 2 or 3 others and one pair Ptarmigan associated together.

June 13 Ptarmigan - Pair - ♂ & ♀ seen on tundra in polygoned area.

June 16 Heard one ♂ call while on ridge NE B.

June 18 Nest with 8 eggs, situated at the base of a tussock with a branch of willow arching over it. Willow branch is not yet leafed out so that it doesn't conceal nest. Female flushed when I was 3 feet away. She attempted a distraction display - tail spread - fluffed feathers, wings partly out - called & ran about. Soon stopped & simply walked about clucking gently while I photographed. Nest was in an

Each Ptarmigan nest
See also note June 25

Maher
1959

Lagopus lagopus

area of tussock tundra which extends down the E slope of axial ridge for 200 yds — located about 100 yards from ridge.

Maher
1959

Lagopus mutus

May 21, Putnegea Lines – Three or 4 seen on on E. side of river. Males all, still in full white plumage. Black eye mark + red combs plainly visible. We saw at least 2 of these displays. Also saw 2 feeding amicably together.

May 23 One ♂ seen feeding in grass at base of large snow bank. Pictures.

May 24 Two males flew across river just ~~early~~ below camp from E to W side. afternoon

May 25 Few along the stream mile 5. of camp. Saw 2 males together. Also saw 2 displaying. Tom shot a female – already moulted on head + back + flank, moulting on breast + abdomen. Males still all white in contrast to Willow Ptarmigan males which now have brown neck – their usual breeding plumage.

The female shot this date had an egg in her oviduct. Her largest ova was 13 mm.

~~June 12~~ June 13 Putnegea. Saw one male – still white but few dark feathers in neck. Only one seen so far. Ptarmigan in general seem down.

June 14 ♂ Rock Ptarmigan at S. end Oval ridge.

June 15 ♂ Rock Ptarmigan near rocky ridge near long tent #6 – 1¢ near ocean, nearest cabin.

June 17 ♂ near far ridge, a mile along Pomeroy Slough.

Meher
1959

Lagopus mutus

June 18 One very mangy male was flushed from polygons near longtail nest #9.

June 21 One mangy male along Oul ridge near willow ptarmigan nest. Still white (dirty) except for scapulars + back of head.

June 25 ♂ along river edge, back now brunette + summer pelage - still some white. ♀ flushed with him - she seemed larger - browner - in fact looked like my willow ptarmigan on nest. This plus fact that male Rock Pt. was seen near "willow" nest makes me think it is the former species.

July 4 Nest checked, still unhatched. Flushed ♂ 50 feet from nest. He flew off. ♀ very aggressive had to be pushed off nest. Attacked me several times then jumping at me + striking with her wings.

July 5 Still unhatched.

July 8 Hatched + gone. Collected egg shells.

July 9 Surprised a ♀ brooding about 10 chicks, not a nest. Chicks couldn't fly. Female jumped up + ran off among tussocks - never saw her again - Brood ran in all directions chirping. I grabbed 3 but let them go again. Also on ridge between Parantic #1 + Pomarine #2

Mabey
1959

Grus canadensis

May 22 Pelly River. - Saw a total of 21 of them. A flock of 5 heading S. + E. beyond river. A second flock of 16 circling high. The 2 flocks merged, did a lot of milling + circling + then headed off West again.

May 25 5 were landed near tent in flooded sedge tundra near base of snow bank when I stepped out of the tent this morning. They flew at once across river + landed ½ mile away on tundra.

May 25 (cont.) - Saw six flying high during afternoon.

June 17 A flock of 20 cranes flew over Laon Mand heading SE. Landed on other side of river.

July 19 Saw 2 cranes feeding along bar on Willow Creek. They may possibly be European Cranes as I will describe them. Both had bright red patches on top the forepart of head.

was triangular from top and quite bright, (the sun was over my shoulder). Upper part of neck + head much lighter than the rest of their body. It was a washed out grey - the rest of their dorsal parts at least were brownish grey. Transition to light neck quite distinctable.

They seemed to be a small grey patch on side of head as indicated above.

Don't recall that Sandhill Cranes had any red on head.

Maher
1959

Grus canadensis

July 22 The 2 cranes are still present along willow Creek. I flushed them as I walked down from Parent # 1 nest. They flew downstream a way and landed, preened themselves + fed. They are brown cranes + not European cranes. Peterson's figure of Red head patch confirms this.

July 27 Saw 2 on Loon Slough in morning. Flew off as Tom + I approached.

July 30 2 cranes on upper slope of Carbon Int. Feeding. From their actions I presumed they were chasing mice ie Slow deliberate walking + an occasional quick stab. Didn't see any caught.

Maher
1959

Squatarola squatarola

May 21 One seen flying on tundra on W. side of river.

May 22 One seen flying over study plot near camp

May 23 Two seen - swigley.

May 26 1 Black-bellied plover seen about small tundra pool near delta.

May 27 1 Seen chased by a golden plover near cabin at mouth of river

Squatarola squatarola is now Pluvialis squatarola

Mahn
1959

Pluvialis dominicus

May 22 Petronegra Cove. These are frequently seen. One pair seems to be hanging about the tent & are seen & heard frequently — others are met with occasionally on the tundra -

May 23 Pair near tent still about. Pair on ridge 1/4 mile upstream. Others occasionally seen. No flocks seen yet

May 25 Two near camp are still about. The only ones seen

May 26 Pair near tent seen copulating this noon. There were no preliminaries that I saw. Male landed on female back. Stood there calmly for perhaps 10 seconds then proceeded to copulate & male flew straight off up slope & over & under out of site.

4 pair noted on bar accross mile 1/4 mile upstream from camp

May 27 Saw 4 pair today — 2 along coast toward cabin. One in vicinity of cabin & one over by ridge back from coast. About 4 pair in a square mile.

Saw one plover chase a Black-bellied Plover & drive it out over the river. Then ran the pair near the cabin.

June 15 Nest with 4 eggs - on rocky ridge - have plotted nesting location of Plover pairs on map

Mahey
1959

Pluvialis dominicus

June 20 Located nest of Golden Plover pair on ridge above camp. 4 eggs. There also seems to be 3 birds. One on this side of ridge who calls + the pair on far slope of ridge with the nest. Possible the lone bird has a mate + there are 2 nests.

June 21 Pair on Ridge II - nest located on far side South end, 4 eggs.

June 23 Nest with 4 eggs on W side - middle - of Ridge II. Second nest along this ridge.

June 27 ~~#13~~ - Plover nest empty parents about + reading w distraction displays. Eggs have obviously hatched.

July 18 Found one pair calling along ridge heading towards falcon rock. The pairs above two have gone in the past 2-3 days.

July 22 Adult on ridge this evening with 2 young. The young could just fly a few yards + were still quite downy about the head, neck, + ventral side.

July 28 Pair along S. end of parasite #2 ridge, calling.

Aug. 2 Saw one chick, fully feathered, on ridge II. Also saw 2 fully grown chicks + one adult on Ridge III b.

Aug. 5 Flock of large dark shorebirds, 25, probably Golden Plover

Mahn
1959

Pluvialis dominica

Aug 6 One adult, calling, on Ridge II. Presumed ~~that~~ this indicates presence of chicks.

Maher
1959

Charadrius hiaticula
(Semi pal. plover)

May 23 Putnegen River – One seen on bar one mile upstream from camp.

May 26 Pair on bar below camp in morning.
Pair on gravel bar in delta in afternoon;
same pair?

June 17 Putnegen: Encountered a pair on bar below tent this morning. Thought they might be nesting as judged by their activities. Returned in evening & criss-crossed the area. They weren't present.

June 18 In evening – about midnight – saw a plover circling over a bar 1 mile up from camp. across from mouth of William creek. – flew over an area 200 feet x 100 feet – wing beat slow calling continuously rĕ rĕ rĕ rĕ rĕ rĕ – run together sometimes with a little syllable inserted between so that it became rĕ'i rĕ'i rĕ' the "i" was asthmatic. While doing this I saw it give chase to a peep sandpiper.

Mabee
1959

Hudsonian Curlew

June 25 Seen flying, calling, over river terrace at Giant Willow stream. Landed near where it comes out of bluffs. Later found long tail nest close - flushed one curlew from about 100 yds from Longtail nest. It flew off & landed on hillside, screaming as it flew. Walked through area from which it came - got no further reaction from it.

Numenius phaeopus

Maley
1959

Limosa lapponica

14 May 23 Petitmeges Lucis. One seen flying down river as we crossed in late afternoon. Earlier saw a shorebird, possibly this species, flying high - headed downstream.

May 26 Flock of 4 flying - 2 males + 2 females. Sex dimorphism extreme in size - male small - red breasted, females large + grey. Hadn't realized it was so striking.

June 15 Heard Godwit call from direction of Loon marsh early this P.M.

June 16 Saw one near Longtail #10 nest. It flew over to me + landed on rocky ridge. Not very vocal for a Godwit.

June 17 A male Godwit flew up from Loon Marsh. Flew off with no comment.

Maher
1959

Arenaria interpres

May 21 Pitmegea Rare. One seen flying over tundra.
1 other seen with flock of Pectoral sandpipers

June 13 Pitmegea Saw 2 pair along the third ridge W. of camp. - rocky ridge - saw one chase a long tailed jaeger. - made a call which sounded like the Sar-tant Godwit greatly speeded up. Reminded me very much of "Snipe conversion"

June 16 Turnstone pair on Bear Ridge. Made pass at Longtail Jaeger nesting nearby (LT #10)

Aug 4 12-15 in flock along Willow Creek in evening. There were 3-6 unidentified peeps in flock also.

Maher
1959

Calidris canutus
Knot

June 16 Two Knot seen today at Longtail nest #10 on Bear Ridge. Hung about near Turnstone. Not sure they were nesting. In fact don't think they were..

June 18 Saw 2 knots in group with 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers + one Golden Plover. The latter was calling + I believe was territorial. along Willow Creek.

Maher
1959

Crocethia alba
(Sanderling)

May 24 Petinesca Cove. Tom Cade reported seeing (4) feeding along edge of rim below tent. Shot 4 of which he recovered only one. Evening

May 25 Two feeding along edge of bar below tent in L. M.

May 26 – 5 feeding along mud flat in delta. About the only shore bird except the red phalarope noted doing this.

May 27 Noted a few feeding in delta.

Crocethia alba
is now
Calidris alba
per AOU 1998

Ereunetes pusillus
is now
Calidris pusilla
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Ereunetes pusilla
(Semi pal.)

May 22 Putnegan Lake. Common. — Were present on May 20 when we arrived. Some displaying began yesterday. Considerably more displaying evident today.

May 23 Frequently seen & heard displaying in the air.

May 25 One pair near tent — heard one or two muttering. Seem down in number.

May 26 7 recorded on afternoons walk. I think they are commoner than the number would seem. They are heard cranking their gears off & on through the day.

May 27 Probably second commonest bird here. Next only to the Longspur. Seven pair were noted but probably this is way low. Their displaying motor is heard all day.

There's a couple of bird fighting about the tent. Two males setting up territories I think.

Three Semi pals came flying by down river. One of above birds flew up & gave continuous rattling call they make followed under them for 100 yds or so then turned flew down.

June 13 Nest with 4 eggs — carex marsh - 20 feet from river edge - 100 yd from mouth of Willow Creek

June 15 One on slope above camp. One displaying over carex marsh ½ mile upstream. Heard displaying during

Maher
1959

Eremophila punilla

June 17 Heard 2 displaying in evening - The first time heard in current days.

June 20 Heard at least 2 displaying during day. Witnessed one in corex marsh across river.

June 25 Nest found previously still w 4 eggs at 7 PM. Many adults throughout day very upset chorthing at me, flying about, etc. along river bars & bluffs of river valley. Could have chicks? Saw one perch in a 4 foot willow.

July 18 Yesterday saw a flock of 4 adults cavorting over wet corex tundra. The first shorebird flock I've seen this year here.

July 27 Only one seen yesterday - they are definitely down in numbers.

Ereunetes mauri
is now
Calidris mauri
per AOU 1998

14 abs
1959

Ereunetes mauri
(Western S.P.)

May 22 Petrunegea River:
Seen in flocks along river & along a running stream on E side of river

May 23 Decrp of 3 definitely of this species on study plot along trap line.

May 25 One trapped in trap line this A.M. Only one seen.

May 26 One seen in delta of river.

May 27 Tom reports two on ridge behind camp. Didn't note them myself.

June 14 One western seen on small stoney ridge near willow creek. acted perturbed at my presence.

June 15 One seen near willow creek - on tundra 200 yds from previous site above.

June 16 3 seen in group on stoney ridge - Ridge III B.

nest June 17 Nest w 3 eggs - on ridge above camp. Tussock tundra.
Noted one along river bar in A.M.
Also noted one on far rocky ridge

June 19 - checked sandpiper nest reported by Swede
nest on June 16, was this species, contained 3 egg on 16 & still has 3 number.

June 18 Saw one on ridge near golden plover nest.

June 21 Found adult w one chick. Seemed recently hatched was dry but could hardly stand. Seemed to

Mabey
1959

Ereunetes mauri

he 2 adults anyone in area. ♀ + ♂ ??

on June 20 nest of Swedes was still in 3 eggs, in evening.

July 22 An adult Western Sandpiper + one young that cried just fly were seen along bed of Willow Creek.

Saw several adult Westerns on rocky ridge near Wabamun Mt.

July 27 Saw several along river edge in afternoon upstream + in evening near delta.

Aug 5 Flock of 14 Westerns + 3 Dunlin along river mud on E side delta.

Aug 11 4 seen at Leg A when we stopped to refuel.

Mahan
1959

Erolia bairdi

May 22 Pitmegea Lmer. One definitely seen along river today. Few previous sightings were questionable

May 23 None noted

Erolia bairdii
is now
Calidris bairdii
per AOU 1997

Erolia melanotos
is now
Calidris melanotos
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Erolia melanotos
(Pectoral)

May 21 Pitrnegea Pair. Have been seen about over river & over tundra in small groups or singly. One flock of 16 was largest seen.

May 23 Still seen occasionally. They occur only in pairs. Announcement call of the male are ~~Yes~~ heard occasionally throughout the day.

May 25 Saw a few. Heard none display today. They seem to have dropped off in numbers as have most other shore birds

May 26 Total of 8 recorded. a flock of 5, & 3 single two of the latter were seen displaying.

May 27 4 seen & heard displaying quite frequently. I watched one pair in which the male made 3 announcement flights subscribing 3 sides of a large square about 1½ acres in size.

June 13 Pectoral - saw a few today but heard none display.

June 14 Flushed female from nest of 4 egg. In area of polygons - small ponds etc. On a polygon with heavy stand of Carex aquatilis -

June 15 Heard one display today. First since my return.

June 17 Pectoral flushed up from area of Carex marsh in Lear March.

Mahee
1959

Erolia melanotus
Pectoral

June 19 Pectoral flew up & gave distraction display in area of carex marsh on E. side of Loon marsh. Didn't see precisely where it came from as couldn't find nest.

June 20 Flushed pectoral in carex marsh on E side of river.

June 25 Flushed 2 from Loon polygon area below camp. - alarm calls. Flushed other during day from similar habitat didn't note them down.

July 7 Flushed 2 or 3 from carex marsh area today.

July 12 Found a pectoral chick, in Loon pond by camp ridge - wings partly feathered out - couldn't fly. ♀ gave elaborate distraction display. I believed from her actions there were more chicks but couldn't find any.

Another anxious ♀ along Loon Slough near Loon #1.

July 27 Only one seen today: They are definitely down in number.

July 28 Two pectorals, adults, seen in sedgy tundra near Longtail 5 ridge. Same area from which 2 Dowitcher chicks were flushed.

Aug 1 One flying chick flushed from carex marsh near Parasitic #3 nest area.

Aug 3 Have seen several flocks of pectorals in past few days. Flocks up to 15 individuals

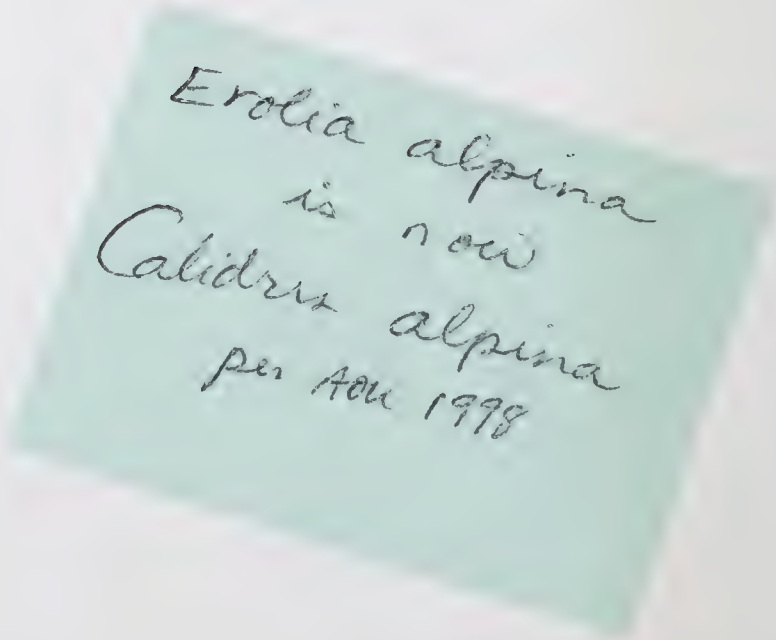
Mabee
1959

Eolia melanotos

Aug 4 Flock of 25 pectorals seen along river in evening.

Aug 5 Flock of 10 pectoral seen near river mouth in evening.

Aug 11 Flock of 25 seen in morning on Cumberland.


Erolia alpina
is now
Calidris alpina
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Crolia alpina
(Dunlin)

May 25 Saw one on A.M. along tapline
— a second one in afternoon.

May 26 - Flock of 5 along edge of river near delta — they actually fed up on the tundra & not in mudflats. Flew off over tundra when I disturbed them

May 27 One about small pond on tundra along with one pintail & one Ruddy

June 3 - Single Dunlin along W. side Bay Lake in polygon area. Group of 4 in exposed grassy area near Vallis area.

June 13 Putuligea. Saw 2 during the day. are about but scarce.

June 14 1 seen on Owl ridge

June 15 Seem very common. Heard frequently during day. Seem still actively courting on population basis unlike all other shore birds which have virtually stopped.

Voted 7 during day though this is very low — they were heard often. Three were seen on or near rocky ridges, 4 in polygonal wet areas. Boundary Chase was seen in latter situation.

June 18 — One seen at Longtail #2 - ie edge of tussock, wet, tundra, One seen on tundra between Owl ridge & ridge # 2.

June 22 Flushed one from caref marsh in Loon marsh — scolded.

Maher
1959

Erolia alpina

July 7 Flushed 2 from Loon marsh today. Have seen one or 2 others in past few days.

July 8 Flushed one near ridge at Longtail #5, a second from near oval ridge.

July 27 Two or 3 seen ~~yesterday~~ today along mud. They are losing their black centers in moult.

Mabee
1959

Limnodromus scolopaceus

May 21 Petitmigea River. Seen usually in pairs. Can think of no exception to this. Much chasing + calling - both on tundra + along river.

May 23 Several pair seen - 2 I remember distinctly, feeding (as pairs) in grassy tundra across river.

May 25. Saw one pair today. They seem down in numbers

May 26 These seem concentrated about wet marshy areas around small lake. I saw 8 in one such area; associated together. But in pairs. One seen later in similar habitat

May 27 3 pair noted. They are probably common then this. They hang about wet carex marsh areas + are liable to be overlooked unless flushed. One was seen at edge of small pond with a ♂ Pintail + 1 Dunlin

June 5 Heard call of Godwit coming from area of Loon Hatchery early P.M.

June 15 None seen since return.

June 16 Two seen along upper Barbel Stream in carex marsh area near Longstaff Post.

June 17 One heard in carex marsh across river in evening.

June 18 Saw dowitcher in wet polygon tundra when going to Pomarine nest #1

Males
1959

Limnodromus scolopaceus

June 20 Heard one on east side of river in carex marsh. Also saw one at pond by Loon nest # 2

June 21 Flushed 3 from carex marsh among polygons in Loon marsh.

July 7 Flushed one from Loon marsh today. Very anxious, flew about me, calling, for several minutes

July 8 Flushed same bird, same place, same reaction.

July 28 Flushed one adult + 2 chicks that could just fly from area of sedge tundra near Longtail # 5 ridge. Also saw 2 pectoral sandpipers.

Maher
1979

Capella gallinago
Snipe

May 27 Patuxent Area. Heard three winnowing 2 or 3 times during the day. This time I was convinced of their presence. Heard one winnow about 4 days ago (on 23) but only briefly & did not recognize it.

June 14 Heard snipe winnow in evening above Wallow Creek. Definitely snipe this time - not sure of above entry.

June 22 10:30 PM Heard snipe winnow once over camp, couldn't spot bird.

June 25 Flushed a snipe from two-track two times at edge of Carex marsh along river - flew giving an alarm call then flew high & winnowed. Later saw one winnowing ½ mile upstream. Noted something I hadn't before - that the winnow is produced during a shallow dive & ends as he pulls out. Dive ∠ no more than 25-30° to horizontal.

Capella gallinago
is now
Gallinago gallinago
per AOU 1973

Maher
1959

Lobipes lobatus

May 27 Tom Reported a pair seen today.

June 15 Two northern phalaropes on river this morning.

June 20 A pair, male & female, were swimming about on one lake on E side of river. Both seemed anxious when I approached but didn't fly, simply swam further out.

June 25 On a pond upstream from stream of the large willows were 10 N. phalaropes. Much calling, flitting about. I got the impression that actual pairing was underway.

~~Each~~ Later saw 2 separate ones on the creek itself.

Aug 3 Saw one phalarope around small pond along Loon Slough. First one I've seen here since above.

Lobipes ~~lobatus~~ lobatus
is now
Phalaropus lobatus
per AOU 1998

Mabey
1959

Phalaropus fulicarius

May 23 Patmegan Lower. Two flocks, one of eleven while running trap line, a second of 8 or 10 on E side of river. Tom saw a single bird on a puddle in evening

May 24 One along edge of river in evening

May 25 Two along edge of river in morning. Flock of 35-40 on river, flew off & up over tundra W.

~~May~~ 3 or 4 small groups seen during the afternoon. groups of 4 – 8

One flock of 15

May 26 Still seen in floods. Saw one of 5, a group of 4, Occasional single birds were feeding on mud flats of delta & along river edge.

May 27 Saw a group of 7 and another of 4. Also one or two single bird over the tundra –

June 13 Have seen none since arriving here.

June 15 One seen in area of polygons & pond near Pomarine nest.

Phalaropus
fulicaria

Mahr
1959

Larus canus
~~argentatus~~

May 22 Pribilofensis Line. Cade has seen several.
One upriver on May 21, one singly along
river the same date
On May 22, 2 were seen from camp
along river
May 23 These "Herring Gulls" turn out to be
Mew Gulls. Saw one flying upstream
as we prepared to cross the river this
morning. A second flew passed us going
downstream when we were a mile up.
May 26 Three or 4 mew gulls seen along river
+ in delta

June 13 Pribilofensis. One adult along Willow Creek
1 1/2 miles S. of camp - Two along river
either today or yesterday evening
June 14 Saw one chased by long tail Jaeger -
#4 nest. - made 2 passes at it.

Maher
1959

Larus hyperboreus

May 17 Barrow, Alaska.

Gulls arrived in numbers on morning of May 16. Are now about slump and not at all on tundra. None have been seen on the tundra yet

May 22 Pitmegea River.

Few have been about along river since we arrived. Sometimes only one 2, or 3 flying along river. This morning there was a flock of a dozen or more along shore downstream from camp.

May 23 Few of these cruise up and down the river - seen occasionally in 2's or 3's or singly

May 25 Saw two flying along river this afternoon.

May 26 Saw surprisingly few in walk about river delta - perhaps a total of 5 from delta to camp.

May 27 Saw 4, 3 juveniles, adult, & one adult. all in delta or along river

June 3 Pair on S. end Skidoark. Hanging about a particular area. Two on edge of Elson Lagoon. One flying along Elson & one near gas well.

June 12 Two in evening along river. Seem scarcer here than formerly.

Mabey
1959

Larus hyperboreus

June 17 One seen in evening along river. One also during day along ocean. They are much scarcer here than formerly & never seen on tundra & almost never up by camp.

June 18 Gull flying along river in evening.

June 22 (21?) On reconnaisance flight yesterday. Found a colony of Glaucous Gulls. A small island in a good sized lake along N. fork of Kukpuk River. 80± Gulls sitting on the island. We buzzed it. There were nests scattered over its surface at make 20-30 feet intervals, nests were piled up crater style ie ~ Cayeldn't get count of nests but roughly 40 would be a good guess.

July 21 Gulls have been largely absent until past few days when I have seen them flying along river & saw a flock toward delta. Today I counted 16 in the delta area.

Aug 3 Large flock of 60+ gulls started hanging about delta & lower river bars on July 26±. Flock has grown large since. There must be 200 of them around. The big attraction appears to be the salmon running in the river. Were first seen by Tom Sovalik at river mouth on July 27,

Maher
1959

Larus hyperboreus

Aug 3 (Cont.) The gull flock at that time stayed at shallow spot below camp. The salmon may have been in this area at that time. I first saw them there on July 31 when Hank & I went down stream to get walrus carcass. Since then they have become abundant in the riffles off camp & the upstream. The gull now congregate there in early morning but leave when we come out.

Seine as many shallow & lumps of salmon plainly visible as they move-

Mohler
1959

Xenia cabrina

May 24 Petrinegra River.

One seen flying along river below camp late this afternoon.

May 26 There are 10-14 of these hanging about delta of river feeding along shore & resting on mud flats.

May 27 Still a dozen or so around delta & out on ocean ice where river water is eroding it.

Maher
1959

Rissa tridactyla

June 6 Barrow.

Three Kittiwakes seen heading E along Coast about 4:25 P.M.

July 27 Petroneja River. Few feeding along inshore at coast a large groups milling about Far out.

Aug 17 Petroneja. A large flock estimated between 1–2000 birds at mouth of river, roosting on bar. The flock contained many ~~juveniles~~ sub adults but ~~not~~ no estimate of them was made. It was way less than half. The birds are actively moulting as judged by the windrow of feathers along the beach.

Kittiwakes have been common along coast all summer, though I've made no special note of them.

Mahe
1959

Pagophila eburnea

July 31 Palmyera River.

One seen along beach 3 mils E. of river in company with several Glaucous Gulls. The bird duplicated me giving a good view of the pure white plumage & dark black legs & feet. About five minutes later the same bird or another, presumably the former, flew back past me a second time.

A north wind had been blowing for five days.

Maher
1959

Sterna paradisaea

May 24 Petenegea River. - One individual over river near tent - late afternoon.

May 25 Flock of six on river flying upstream at 6 P.M.

May 26 Perhaps a dozen in delta area feeding with Sabine Gulls.

May 27 Saw only a few on the delta today. - less than yesterday perhaps half a dozen

June 18 One foraging along the river. The first I've seen since my return to this area, though I've not been to the delta area yet.

June 20 One tern seen in delta. It flew over island near mouth + squawked. This one island is only ~~that~~ likely nesting spot for terns + I would expect they nest there.

June 25 Found 4 nests on bar at river mouth. several other empty scrapes. Most terns I saw while Hank was among nests was 11 - this may be all there are, in which case 4 nests seems close to maximum

July 21 No terns at delta of river at all today. Could be that the movement of fishermen through earlier wiped them out? as far as breeding is concerned.

July 27 2 seen in delta in evening.

Maher
1959

Uria lomvia ~~aalge~~

July 29 Petrivegea River. The recent rough water has brought in a number of carcasses of the Murre. In a 3 mile walk along the beach I saw upwards of a dozen. Most were pretty well eaten but I found one entire carcass & brought it in for a skeleton. I also flushed 3 Murres resting on the beach. All 3 chose positions against the base of the bluff & rest. One was fast asleep when found, squatting with head down on the ground. I approached to ten feet of it & I believe could have gone closer before waking it if I wanted to.

Aug 1 One seen in lagoon at mouth of river, resting & preening on bar. One also seen here yesterday evening, likely the same one.

Aug 7 Large scale movement of Murres along coast heading East. Saw several flocks in afternoon while there for an hour & so. In evening it was calm & flocks of Murres flew by steadily for 2 hours while we were there flocks estimated at 30-60 birds & a few even larger.

Mabee
1959

Cepphus grylle

June 7 Barrow, Alaska

One seen east of pressure ridge on water.

Maher
1959

Nyctea scandiaca

May 16 Barrow, Alaska.

Two seen along Inaru River. See Journal.

There only 2 seen so far. None are reported by any investigators or Eskimos. One exception. Lon Coates saw one on ocean ice last sunday (May 9) — a gull? (Adam Edwards also saw one on May 18)

May 22 Lutrwegen Lines

Appear to be 6 snowy owls hanging about in approx 2 square miles on E side of river. None on this side. There are at least 2 pairs in this total. None appear to be nesting yet. One pair showed definite attachment to an area we traversed + may be still thinking of nesting.

The long stoney ridges in this region usually have several prominent mounds with tall grasses growing on it. This contrasts greatly with the barrenness of the ridge as a whole. Each of these so far examined — upwards of 12 — have owl pellets + owl feathers on + about them. The feathers are fresh + date after the molt. Some of the pellets are weathered — may be from fall or winter. Some are fresh.

May 23 Nyctea present in area across river today

14 ahey
1959

Nyctea scandiaca

May 25 — Three males seen widely spaced out in an area 2 miles SW of camp. No sign of nests as far as I could tell. They were well spaced out - about a mile apart in a drainageway which showed unusually heavy mountain sign.

May 30 — Pete Sovalik reported seeing one at Nunivak Slough.

July 20 — Two snowy owls were seen along edge of tundra near ocean. These first 2 seen since one chased by the parasitic jaegers about a week ago. Both owls sitting — seperated by 1/4 mile.

July 28 — One Owl seen on ridge near Parasitic #2, flew off & was seen later near shore towards cabin.

Aug 4 — Snowy Owl on flat ridge. Flew towards ocean when flushed.

Aug 5 — Snow Owl along shore, probably same as above.

Meber
1959

aeia flammea

May 22 Patuxent Rose: These seem common. Yesterday across river from I both counted 5 at once flying about over a mile or 2 of tundra. They are equally common on the W. side. I would judge 3-4 per square mile a good figure.

Today we saw a pair courting. It was located across study plot on slope facing side of small creek. There may have been a second pair courting in area S. of them but I wasn't sure of this.

I saw several courtship flights & they seemed to run ♂ like this. One - ♂ presumably - flew in advance. Second ♀ - flew behind & above. ♂ flew along slowly and occasionally brought wings down under his body & slapped them together several times. The 8 reports of this were plainly audable & ranged from 6 to 8 in number - usually one or 2 loud drawn ones & 4 or 5 or even 6 at much faster rate following. The bird of course fell slight down during this - quickly recovered & continued flying. The birds flew a large circle - perhaps a mile circumference during this. The presumed ♀ above flew - calling a wheezy whiney call or grunt is more likely.

14 May
1959

Aero flammeus

May 22 (cont.)

She infrequently did the same wing-clapping routine as the male. Ratio of ~~4 to 2~~ 5 to 6 to one in this. Both birds then landed repeatedly. I saw this routine repeated 3 times while I was there setting traps.

May 23 Pair still located W. of camp across stream from trap line. Saw both flying & displaying, both landed, apart (this has been case each time I've observed this). — strange bird flew by, & (light bird) flew up, flew at stranger & followed & to ridge top. ~~Few~~ hundred yards beyond. Then patroled ridge for ¼ mile & returned to "center" of territory. ♀♀ remained on ground during all this.

Couple of pairs noted on E side

In evening a pair noted S. of above pair. One (♂, light) made pass at passerine geese.

Few commonly seen. Flying in pairs

May 25 Commonly seen today. Demonstrations of light ~~grayish~~ male & brownish female, especially underwing seems to hold. Saw pair courting again - this pair just across stream 1 mile S of camp.

Maher
1959

Aïro Flamenco

May 26 One pair noted in area across river from camp. One seen settling on tundra in early afternoon, the brown one of pair, — later both were seen flying.

May 27 Our 2 pairs just seen located beyond trap line are still present.

May 30 Pete Sandell reported seeing one south of Barrow Village

June 4 . Barrow. 1 Short ear came flying along lead in afternoon. Cut inland towards air port.

June 12 Fairweather One male foraging on tundra behind tent in afternoon. In evening by first stream 5. a male (light form) came over & me circled around me about 25 feet up then swooped low (10 ft) over my head & flew off. Later in that same area roughly, saw this male foraging - a half mile beyond saw territorial boundary fight between 2 very light phase short-ears. - Repeatedly saw one chase & swoop at second. This was after a melee between the 2 which I didn't witness completely. There may then be 4 pair nesting on this side of river. Saw one foraging along ridge across river.

It as there 2 but I noted the ♀ male give wing ♀ announcement & then land.

(over)

Maker
1954

Ann Slammen

June 13 Nest with One egg located - not on a high mound but on the side of a low one covered with a good stand of tall grass.

The female is the brown one of the pair & I found the nest by seeing ♂ & ♀ flying together & then watching her. She took 10 minutes to return to the nest - made 3 steps & several long leaps around her before finally going to it. Nest in polygonal area of drainage of Lion pond.

Ridge #2 marks boundary of 2 adj territories. While then watching Lions had two male ants dance along the ridge - one on each side - calling back & forth - the call was a loose sibilant almost grunt like ēya ēya with rising inflection like so / /

Yesterday saw defense by male - attacked a second male once - both then landed 25 yards apart. The intruder finally flew off. One pass was only briefly seen.

June 14 Putnegan Pines. Here things continue to puzzle me. Am still at a loss to know exactly how many are in an area.

This evening I had an especially unenlightening series of observations. It began when

Maher
1959

Asio flammeus

I ~~saw~~ a male + female circling around low. Thought I might find a second nest. ♂ + ♀ circled + fought together for several minutes. It was all done legibly + I thought it was in good clean fun + all that. They flew around following each other closely — low + ground; periodically they would rise in the air with either ♂ or female it seemed chasing + extending claws at the other ~~open~~ antagonist would then flip up + ward blow with claws.
♀ finally landed out of sight. ♂ perched. I walked thru area. ♂ circled me once looking at me then flew off.
Flushed ♀ — from presumed nest then returned to a mound to watch + see if I could locate nest. She returned + circled + came had knock down drag out fight. A male came along had ~~fight~~ fight with one ♀, other female flew off a half mile or so. ♂ left also
Second male upstream flew down + ~~boated~~ — a string of 8 or 9 beats pretty rapid for an owl. First time I've heard a short-ear boat. Did this 2 or 3 times — remained high + remained away finally landed in palygon area upstream.

Maher
1954

Aegolius funereus

June 16 I give up on Owls! ♂ hooted ♀, circled, called ggow ggow ggow or chow, chow. Very hoarse & throaty. She also hooted a few times. I thought she came from a nest. She circled a long time. Gave aerial display - ie wing-clap several times also called & hooted. A male appeared circled above her & likewise hooted. Hoots are on same pitch level 10-15 per series, minute spaced & intensity through one sequence. Circled 5 minutes, she landed. Watched me - I watched her. She flew way S. over crest of ridge towards willow Creek. Saw her follow male, make pass at him. He flipped up claws at her. Both disappeared. Several minutes later ♂ returned, then ♀. Long wait - ♂ moved further off. - She finally went to a nest - in a few minutes got up - another spot - then another. I finally went to first found no nest. Could find ♀ anywhere. No sign of ♂ or ♀ when the hell were they!

June 22 ♂ seen today across river in evening foraging - crossed to this side also. Another owl perched on ground might have been ♀. Considers this pair present - accounted for.

Owl ♂ & a marsh hawk harassed by a Ponarine of pair #1.

♂ Owl in area West of ridge # 2 today

Maher
1959

Asio flammeus

June 22 (cont.)
On way in at 6:30 PM ♂ owl between camp & Owl ridge — he flew over to ridge & along it. ♂ appeared flying along owl ridge on E side. Heated.

June 24 Checked nest at 8:30 PM. Seven eggs. ♀ remained on nest until I was 10 feet away. Flew about me clicking her "teeth". Is moulting heavily.
Some good owl observations in late afternoon & early evening. ♂ Owl W. of Ridge II flying — announcing by clapping wings. Owl along E side ridge doing same. Owl far S. across Barbal slough. Another far N+W across drainage way. Two one also announced. Thus given 4 Terr. males. One W. of Ridge II; — Two E of Ridge 2, Three Across Barbal slough + W. of its fork, + Four N+ W. of Pomarine Territory

July 7 Checked nest for first time since I returned at noon today. Eggs are gone — no sign eggs or of female. I wonder if she could be a casualty of the pomarine invasion. No foxes, bears, wolves, or wolverines have been seen.

July 8 Flushed ♂ owl near LT #5, near stream from a polygon a tall Artemisia tridentata: thus area of suspected owl nest. Another ♂ owl flushed

Maher
1959

Asio flammeus

July 8 ~~D~~ along Leon Slough just straight out from end of Owl ridge. Maher suspected a nesting pair a little W. of here.

July 9 Found nest across river at 8 P.M.
Contained 4 chicks, 1 egg.

Nest #2 7 microtus oeconomus about nest. 3 Ad ♀, 1 Im. ♀, 3 Im. ♂. No pellets about nest site at all, & very few recent feathers.

Watched male hunt for 45 minutes from in front of tent. During that time he caught 2 mice which he carried to what turned out to be the nest site, dropped down for only an instant & flew away again.

Saw him in the Territory defence of nest. Was sitting on small mound, after catching first mouse, well W. of nest site. Suddenly flew, flew slightly - rapidly to ~~nest~~ ridge S. of nest where he began the wellaway slow flight (mothy) - at same time I spotted a male owl hunting along ridge top. ~~He~~ did one very flapping announcement, then landed.

After locating the nest went to ridge behind camp. Three male owls seen hunting. One along Owl ridge. One in Leon marsh at the S. end. & one S across Barbal Slough. Same old 3. The one hunting along Owl ridge did all his foraging along

Mahler
1959

Asio flammeus

July 9 (cont.) below the band of E. vag. tussock tundra which runs along the ridge. Hunted up & down in carex marsh below & + up to edge but not over the tussock stuff.

8 in 5. loon marsh flew over & made one pass at this ♂. He responded by one bird slapping announcement & continued hunting. Loon marsh ♂ landed + remained on ground near where encounter took place for 15 minutes.

Nest #3 ♀ owl flew in & landed in marsh not far out from ridge. Found nest with 7 chicks, a little further along than nest #2 I ♀ more at nest edge. Again — no pellets + few feathers about nest.

Earlier in day a ♂ + ♀ owl seen hunting between Burial Slough & Willow Creek.

July 10. Nest #2, weighed chicks. Three Lincoln's sparrows still at nest. 2 ad ♀, 1 subad ♀. Feathers of Longspur. Collected same.

July 12 Owl W. of Pom. #3, have seen the pair before. ♂ made pass at pomarine 2x. I walked thru area. At one spot ♂ flew to ground, made loud "antrim" hissing noise — was hidden behind tussocks. After a while I left. I found nothing. As I returned to that spot. (marked with stake) ♂ repeated the performance

Maher
1959

Asio flammeus

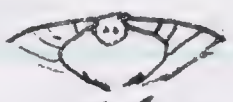
but I still found no sign of nest. Din saw Lawrence that it must be there.

Missing chicks from owl nests 3 & 4. Oldest ones. Does male feed them? Do they return to nest? Was their leaving natural & prompted by my visits? Walked areas around nests & couldn't find them. Found one at nest #4 & put it into enclosure.

July 14 — Distraction display of ♂ owl. I have seen & heard the bird do this several times but usually at a distance & usually he disappears behind treetops so that I could not see his actions once on the ground. Saw 2 good ones on part of male of nest #3. First one he done down, flew along the ground, perhaps 2–3 feet up, wings out & beat in a shallow arc like so ~~~, i.e fluttered along making hoarse anxious cries ghē ghē ghē etc. Landed & turned & looked at me (path along ground away from me.) made several other cries just standing watching me. Did another as I got closer to nest. Done flew along very close to ground 1–2 feet & this time clapped wings beneath his body as he flew. Wings seemed to scrape on vegetation as he did it & it was done in 2 short bursts. Uttered cries while doing it.

Maher
1959

Accipiter flammeus

July 15 ♂ owl at nest 4 did a distraction display in plain ~~site~~ sight for once. Similar to the one described above. Was flying high, did a wing over & dove to ground, flew along ground away from me bringing wings together under body. The wings seemed to bend mostly at distal end so that ~~[illegible]~~ the impression I got was as so:  wings going up, almost to horizontal & down as shown. Did this 6-8 times & up to eight wing beats & landed.

July 16 ♂ of nest 4 repeated the above performance today.

Found in nest #2. Found only one chick being brooded by ♀. After much searching about found one other chick & put it in enclosure. During this searching I found 3 or 4 pockets in the grass where the chicks have been resting. They make a depression in deep grass about their own size, 5"x8" made by 5" chick. Apparently they are told to stay there for some time & be fed, by the ♂ I presume. Two of the depressions had 2 each pellets in them, one had some feces. The same thing is occurring in my enclosed nests. Older chicks have little depressions in which they sit & have several pellets next to them indicating that they stay there & are fed there. Collected pellets

Mabee
1959

Asio flammeus

July 16 (cont). At nest 2 the depressions I found were all within 30 feet of nest. Though the duck which was found was a good 50 feet away.

July 19 Visited nest #2. The female was no longer brooding. She did not show herself all the time I was at nest. The 2 ducks are in the enclosure. At opposite sides of it. I banded both. 100 yards from compound I found duck RH. - banded him - did not weigh him - + put him in compound.

Nest #4 ♀ not brooding. either.

Nest #5 ♀ flew when I was 150 yds off - flew low along ground - made no display. Has not usual method - usually she lets me get almost 2 nest before flying up.

Four young in this nest. All of which have their own little pockets in the enclosure. + a pile of pellets in + around it.

July 20 Saw a ♂ + a ♀ in area N + W of loon slough - marked on map - caused he a nest there.

July 22 Neither adult in evidence at nest #2 while I was there. One duck has escaped.

At nest #4 ♂ was seen as I approached nest but no longer once I was there. One duck has escaped from this pen also.

Nest 3, ♂ present did a weak

Maly
1959

Asio flammeus

distraction display.

All 4 chicks in enclosure. When I arrived they were distributed about the periphery of the enclosure each about 90° from the neighbors on both side.

♂ short ear was seen chasing the Rough-legs on Willow Creek. Made repeated swoops at hawk + both retired back to their own territory.

July 27 Flushed a pair, male + female in drainage across One Mile Ridge, East of nine. ♂ remained flying + gave warning call, female flushed up + flew off. My ♂ of owl nest 2 was flying along ridge at this time. Probably the territory boundary. (I presume it was the ♂ of pair 2, didn't follow him back)

July 28 ♂ - growling or hooting or whatever in area between Pomarine #2 + Baikal Slough - nearer to slough. Same general area I have always supposed a nest (ejected)

July 30 Found an owl chick (unbanded) on E slope of owl ridge, midway down through the band of tussock tundra that borders the ridge. The owl was actually in the one strip of sedge that runs down thru the tussocks about in middle of ridge. ♂ owl was near by + gave a weak distraction display. Does seem to prove the presence of a second

Maher
1959

Asio flammeus

nest in the Owl ridge vicinity as I have long suspected.

A ♂ owl barked at me when I was halfway between Ridge II & Cauhorn Mt. at about level of the loon pond. May be one up here as well as the one N+S already known + the nest ~~that~~ failed near loon pond.

Aug 1 — Owl #2, chick gone, ad 9 hunting in area.

Aug 3 — Owl 4 ♂ present
Owl 3 ♂ present
Owl 2 ♂ seen in evening, hunting.
Owl 2 seen in LT #9 territory
Owl ♂ at end of owl ridge (Head)
Owl at Ridge III b, ♂, calls at me.
I think diff territory then at LT #9 territory.

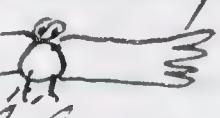
Aug 4 — Found Owl chick across nine 1/4 mile from owl nest #2, straight inland from it approx. It was not banded + showed no toe clip though latter not conclusive evidence that it was not clipped. ~~Be~~ believe this is a chick of ~~that~~ nest. Couldn't get fly.

Short ear owl calling, flying, NW. of LT #7 site.

In evening along Willow Creek I flushed up at least 2 owl chicks already able to fly. They kept flying ahead of me + were flushed several times. There might have been more than

Mahon
1959

Avio flammeus

two. At any rate the ♂ was present & was calling most of the time, when I was in the neighborhood of the duck he went into a violent distraction display. It was the same as already seen except for one detail. After flying down, wing clapping along ground he landed turned & faced me & held his wings out  like so, called a few times while doing this. Held pose until he flew again. Don't know what nest they came from - I suspected one over this way on N slope above the creek but never found any.

Aug 5 One flying chuck in nest #4 area, first seen here. Only others so far are ones seen last nite.

Aug 6 Flushed a chuck near LT#9 site, also noted several pellets & down feathers in area among tussocks. Found one non-flying chuck near junction of E & W forks of Baikal Slough, Banded it. ♂ adult flew about overhead calling.

Aug 11 Owls of pair 3 & 2 seen in morning.

Maher
1959

Sayornis ~~phoebe~~ saya

May 26 Petmezes River. One seen on island in delta of mouth. It flew up to me landed 3 feet away for a few seconds & then flew off. I followed it for 50 yds or so while it kept just ahead of me.

June 23 Petmezes River. Nest in 5 eggs on Falcon cliff some 3 miles upstream & across river from camp. Nest in tiny rock pocket scarcely larger than nest about 12-15 feet above river.

Maher
1959

Corvus corax

May 22 Petrified Pine. Several of these about occasionally. Two or 3 called & flapped about tent in early morning of May 21.
One or 2 seen about on tundra during both days.

May 23 None seen

May 27 One seen in morning by mouth of river.

June 13 Petrified - One seen chased by Longtail Jaeger this afternoon. One along river on evening of June 12.

June 1 Lanes on bar downstream from camp in morning. One yesterday evening along ocean shore.

Mabee
1959

Cremnophila (?) alpestris
(Horned. lark)

May 21 Petitmegea Lake.
One seen on study plat above tent.

June 13 Petitmegea River. Saw one bird, & heard it sing continuously for 5 minutes or so. On rocky shingly hill side 2 mile from camp.

Mahe
1959

Iridoprocne bicolor
(Tree Swallow)

May 16 About this date Pete Sorahk saw a swallow along the open lead flying about an Uniak. From his description I presume it was this species. He emphasized the dark back & white underside.

June 1 Barrow - Tree swallow flying about animal house in the evening about 7 P.M. Perched on back of cold lab. for a couple of minutes. Was not seen again.

Iridoprocne bicolor
is now
Tachycineta bicolor
per Aou 1998

Hirundo erythrogaster
is now
Hirundo rustica
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Hirundo erythrogaster
Barn Swallow

June 17 Petroglyph Beach. Two Barn-Swallows were seen at S. end of Owl ridge. They flew around a couple of times & then headed on west.

June 18 In morning a barn swallow was seen flying about tent area & over river. It caught a butterfly or moth & played with it a while, carrying it then releasing it & recatching it. I saw this repeated several times.

June 19 In evening 2 swallows were flying about tent & along bar. Owned these nested in the cliffs down stream.

June 20 One swallow seen around tent & along river or bar side several times during day.

June 21 Swallow flew past tent in early afternoon.

June 25 One Swallow flushed from cabin at river mouth in late evening.

July 4 Flushed one swallow from cabin in evening. A partially built nest was found on side of one roof beam. Small mud ledge 1½" wide by 2" long. Mud pellets were daubed all along the same beam & several adjacent beams.

July 16 Seen flying about camp area during calm warm weather late this afternoon.

Aug 7 Nest measured 4½ x 2½, seemed finished. Last sighting of swallow was July 16 noted above.

Maher
1959

Kennicott Willow Warbler

June 12 Kitmeyer Pass: One seen along stream S. of camp.

June 14 - Warbler singing near Longtail nest at mouth of Barbal Stream heard here for at least an hour.

Phylloscopus borealis

Miller
1959

Oenanthe oenanthe

Wheatear

May 25 One on high rocky ridge. Saw it enter a small crevice under a ~~large~~ large flat stone - .

May 31 Saw one along beach ridge at Barrow.

Aug 11 1 Wheatear seen in morning on walk to pomarine jaeger nest - Along ~~Beach~~ Ridge II.

Weber
1959

Dry-Cooked Thrush

June 13 Patuxent River: Five thrushes in mellow brush along Willow Creek. 2 feet brush.

Catharus minimus

Mahy
1959

Dorcus parvus

May 29 Petitmegean River. Tom reported one Varied Thrush by Typhalon Point.

Maher
1959

Metarella flava
yellow Wagtail

June 15 Saw several today. The first I've seen here this year. One in particular on evening along Willow Stream circled & called over a small area - on terrace above stream - treed area. Is this an announcement display - waited for this.

June 16 Witnessed a flight song by a Yellow Wagtail. Heard it singing a dry reedy trill ~~~ about 15 notes per song - make 20. Given roughly on the same pitch, mouth wide open. It's display consists of flying upwards 20-25 feet. Then drops down with wings straight out, tail elevated + closed, feet + legs extended down. Looks rediculous. It sings as it descends. The body appears fluffed but must check this out. One of give 3 flight displays at spot at edge of Barbel Stream near LT #4 nest. It also sang on the ground. This is spot when I thought I heard a Willow Warbler a few days ago & this song is much like willow warblers. Better check this out!. Grey head, white mark over eye, dark face patch. Didn't get good look at breast or tail when I wanted to. He flew off.

June 25 Wagtails become common a mile inland - beyond Willow Creek. Looks like above description applies to them.

Aug 7 Wagtails have been about last few past 2 days.

Maher
1959

Anthus spinoletta
water pipit

May 22 Petitnegen River.

Saw one over on tundra w. of river.

May 23 - Two in low willow scrub near tent. in evening.

July 5 - Couple of pair breeding on top of cliff along Willow Creek behind Wolverine Mt. The birds flitted about in alarm when we were walking along the cliff top. Only place seen.

Anthus rubescens

14 abs
1959

Spizella arborea
tree Sparrow

June 4 Uniat. Spent about ~~a~~ an hour at terminal. Three or 4 males singing in vicinity of terminal building.

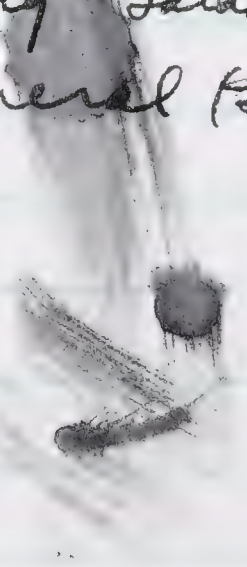
Maley
1959

Passerculus sandwichensis
Savannah Sparrow

May 27 Pribilofs Birds. One seen on tundra facing ocean. Singing. Was surprised at the extent of yellow wash over front of head. More extensive than I ever recall noting before. Called to mind a Verdin.

June 13 Pribilofs. Heard singing frequently during the day.

Aug 2 One seen along Badal Slough today. First one in several (~~days~~ (about 3) weeks.



Mahn
1955

Melospiza melodia
Song Sparrow

June 12 Petromyzon River. One seen on tundra - area
of grasses & low tussocks

June 13 This a savannah sparrow idiot!

Males
1959

Zonotrichia leucophrys.

May 23 Petinegea Crik.
One shot in front of tent at noon.
Several, 2-3, singing in willows
at bend, mile upstream.

May 28 Saw one along stream 1½ miles up
river. One other on 2 foot willows
along river. Apparently roosting here with
a longspur + a redpoll - all 3 were flushed
out at 12:30 A.M.

June 4 Umiat - One singing near terminal at
Umiat.

June 13 Petinegea. Heard singing on willow creek
- 1½ miles S. of camp. One bird heard

June 20 Saw 2 at old eskimo house on E
side of delta at shore.

Maher
1959

Calcarius lapponicus

May 22 Latitude 62° Ubiquitous as usual.
Males displaying when we arrived.
Saw 2 copulate this morning. Both had same pattern, ♂ chased ♀ in very close zig zag flight. She landed & they copulated. She was a precopulatory display on the ♂'s part which I did not see distinctly except ♀ with bill & his mouth was open & he held himself tall, wings partly spread & fluttered some.
In both instances a second male came over and attempted to horn in.

May 23 All over - usually mated paired today.
Much aerial displaying

May 25 Ubiquitous as usual, males singing & displaying all over. Saw female with nesting material. One ♀ trapped had very large ova.

May 26 Ubiquitous

May 27 " . Tried to chase one pair off. Attempting today. Couldn't. They will perch so far - a hundred feet or so & then doubled back. The adjacent male gave a wing display & what I presume was taunting harangue & they flew back past me.

May 31 Barrow - A few of these have arrived at Barrow. Occasional pairs were seen on a

Mabee
1959

Calcarius lapponicus

3 here each on the tundra. They are hanging about the beach ridge, the swamps, & the bare polygons at S. end of central marsh. Didn't keep track of them but might have seen 20 pair on the trip. They tended to be widely scattered & in pairs.

June 3 Still a few scattered out over bare area on tundra. I saw 2 males displaying on the wing. One group of 3 males, & a few pairs. Widely scattered.

June 13 Petuniqea. Nest - 4 eggs - one chick - natal down only partly dry & fluffed. 4 eggs not pipping.

Males still singing & displaying.

June 14 Nest with 6 newly hatched, i.e. 1 day old chicks.

Nest w: 5 young, 1 day old

Nest w: 4 eggs.

Nest w: 5 young, 1 day old

Nest w: 2 eggs, 4 young

* (Swede) Nest w: 2 eggs, 3 young - one w down nest yet fluffed. others fluffed out.

June 15 Nest w 6 eggs - ridge above camp. N. of red stake - tussock area - nest tucked under tussock edge.

* Swede Nest (above) 1:45 PM 3 chicks, 2 eggs

7:00 PM same (not hatched on June 17)

June 17 Swede Nest w 6 chicks,

Swede Nest w 5 eggs.

Maher
1959

Calcarius lapponicus

June 18 Nest with 4 eggs - in cares tundra adjacent to river + upstream from camp. Nest situated in side of a moss tussock.

June 22 ♂ displaying by Ridge II this afternoon.

June 24 Nest w 3 eggs on E slope of ridge about 2 PM. Still had 3 eggs at 11:30 PM. ♀ incubating first time.

June 25 Above nest had 4 eggs at noon. ♀ incubating

June 27 2 PM this nest had 5 eggs. ♀ not on when we came.

July 3 6 PM above nest still 5 eggs, ♀ incubating
— Flushed a long-tail chick just out of nest could hardly flutter off the ground, attended by ♂.

July 5 3 PM, 3 eggs + 2 newly hatched young. ♀ not about when I approached nest.

July 6 2 PM, 2 eggs + 3 chicks ♀ incubating

July 7 1 PM 1 egg + 4 chicks

July 9 4 PM 5 young.
In evening saw a ♂ Longspur feeding a flying chick before tent.

July 11 4:30 PM above nest w 3 young

July 12 nest above - still 3 young.

July 13 nest above - 2 young alive, one dead.

July 17 (P.M.) One young not fledged in nest. He was almost ready to go. Could not get quite fly.

July 18 Met flocks of young Longspurs for first time today - flocks of 20±.

Mahli
1959

Calcarius lapponicus

July 22 Longspurs, juvenile + adult, have been taking shelter in the pile of driftwood outside the tent. Seem to roost in it + feed around the area using that as protective hiding place. This secretive habit of the longspurs + other birds may be very important for the gaugers as far as availability of prey is concerned.

Aug 3 Should make a note here of young longspurs. I see them commonly in small groups in protected areas like Barbal Slough. Here I flush them in 2,5—3,5—or 6's and walk along. They also occur in groups along the rocky ridges + about tent. On most of tundra they are scarce or absent. This same concentration of young + probably adults in latter July was noted at Kaolak where they congregate mostly in willows though some remained in shrub willow tundra. Flats.

Maher
1959

Plectrophenax nivalis
Calcarius lapponicus

May 17 Barrow, Alaska.

One on tundra this evening. Flew by me in mixed.

Signs of them feeding about here spots on tundra near Gas Well on May 15. None actually seen then

Males actively singing about camps since 2 in here. Found 4 or 5 located around lab this evening. Plotted locations on map.

May 22 Plectrophenax nivalis
Have seen several - all males - usually along ridges on tundra.

May 23 One seen flew across river from E to W. - landed on snow bank

May 25 Saw about 2 pair - along rocky ridges.

May 26 Pair on rocky ridge upstream on E side. Male on bar below tent this morning

May 27 Two seen along beach at river mouth - a male & female. Fuzzy female 2nd noted.

May 30 Watched buntings behind lab for an hour this evening. Saw 3 pairs going with males & females, appearing pretty thoroughly. Saw what I thought was an attempted copulation. - unsuccessful.

May 31 One pair on tundra near south beach ridge

June 3 - Few seen on tundra today

Maher
1959

Plectrophenax nivalis

June 13 Pairs seen - 1 pair on Ridge II - west of camp

June 16 At least 3 pair on far ridge (also called Ridge III + Bear ridge)

June 17 Several ♂ Buntings were flitting about the cliff just below bar on which tent is situated. This would be a good nest site possibly this year here.

June 20 ♂ singing from bluff downstream from camp during afternoon. Seen then again at 7 that evening.

June 23 Nest with 5 young - dark grey down no pin feathers. 2-3 days old. Under rock slab on Ridge II - west side. Nest reached by a small opening perhaps 3 inches square + passage 16-18 inches long to tiny chamber just nest size.

♀ Bunting chased a female Longspur who was foraging within 50 feet of nest. Soon later chased a ♂ Longspur + later still the female again. The Longspurs were foraging along the ridge all day. Fifty feet radius seemed to be the female territorial range because beyond this she paid them no heed. Didn't see male chase them at all.

June 24 At nest on ridge II. Later several other flocks of Longspurs & Snow Buntings. When I put up camera tripod. ♀ landed 20 feet from nest

Mahn
1959

Electrophenax nivalis.

June 24 a female Longspur landed between her ♂ nest — she at once flew ♂ landed on nest side of Longspur ♂ ~~flew~~ then chased Longspur.
Later while I was taking pictures both ♂♂ ♀ chased a ♂ Longspur. As I recall the ♀ took initiative.

July 4 Nest, along river in bluff 5 ft above river edge in crack in rock 5" wide 18" deep. Nest partly old — had been used before — contained 4 eggs, 2 chicks, & one stone.

July 22 The above nest checked again on the 21. Empty. However there is a loose pile of rocks about 20 feet from nest & it appears the young ♂ adults are still hanging about ~~last~~ cover. Many droppings about the pile. Flushed one adult ♂ one chick from it.

July 24 Female Lapland seen carrying a mouth full of food. In neighborhood of nest noted July 4 above. Could be the young are still dependent & being fed. Likely.

July 25 ♂ Lapland feeding 2 flying chicks along bank at mouth of Leon Slough.

Acanthis hornemanni
is now
Carduelis hornemanni
per AOU 1998

Maher
1959

Dendroica
aestiva hermesami

May 22 Catmegen River.
One seen feeding on seed head at snow bank near tent
Tom heard one yesterday
May 23 Few about in taller (2 feet - 3 feet) willows on bar 1 mile upstream. Very light & hoary looking - Saw 2 by tent in evening, also light colored.
May 27 One in willows by tent — a male
May 28 Found a nest with 3 eggs at 12 A M. Female flushed off. Nest 12" (to rim) from ground in a 20" willow shrub. Located along a stream flowing in to the river about 1½ miles up from camp. On lee of a bank - on S. facing side. The fact that she was sitting lends suspicion to may iden that they may incubate with the first egg.
June 3 Few Redpolls at Umiat about Terminal building.
June 25 A fledgling seen today. In contrast to adults seem to hug cover. Flushed very close from a willow clump. Returned at once to cover in another + wouldn't leave - stayed low down. Similar to longspur + Savannah chicks — good selection, protective advantage + all that.
Spotted 3 nests in taller willows — all old - possible early nests are low down in better shelter - higher ones later when willows leaf out?

Malaspina
1959

Canus lupus

July 31 Petinegea Cove.. Found fresh wolve tracks along edge of Bashal Slough. Heading up stream..

Aug 5 Wolf tracks along ocean shore for 3 mile E. Wolf heading W along coast, up east side of delta, crossed river ▽ bar at end of camp bar ▽ on up out timber. ▽ had dragged a dead ringed seal up from water edge 40 feet ▽ eaten a good part of the carcass. Smelled aagunk carcass but didnt find.

Fresh tracks along Willow creek on Aug 4.

Maher
1959

Eugnathus barbatus

June 11 Barrow, Alaska.

Information from Pete Sovalik on Oogruk. 2 Young born April + March. Young seen swimming with parent by June. Not before. By that time young are about 1 yard long. Females are still lactating. They will give birth on moving ice will do shore fast ice. They don't feed on meat (ie seal) or fish.

June 12 Pete Sovalik brought in the stomach of a 2 year old Oogruk, killed on June 11.

Maher
1959

Ursus horribilus

July 21 Pictured Pass, Alaska

Saw a grizzly bear today down toward the beach. He was walking down Flint Ridge when first seen passed out of sight then was seen crossing the long ridge west of that one. Fresh tracks along beach indicate that he had traveled along the beach to the edge of the delta opposite the cabin & on up to ridge. Older tracks in mud indicate that he was out on spit a few days ago.

Have seen 4 other bears this year, all in June until the one. Two on Bear Mt. on 2 successive days - one mentioned in journal. Two on Wolverine Ridge (beyond Willow Creek) one day Hank Childs came in.

July 29 Saw 2 at about 10 PM today. Along Willow Creek near river. They headed up creek, one presumeably in or along stream, it was out of sight from where I was up on bluff behind tent. The other went up along ridge this side of creek but soon disappeared, presumeably he crossed ridge & creek side.

Maher
1959

Alces americana

June 4. Three separate individual moose seen in Williams along Caribou Lane from Unnat Dr. North.

Maher
1959

Rangifer tarandus

June 4 Caribou seen on flight to Umiat this date:

4 Caribou (3 + 1 calf) at 5:25 - on coastal plain - feeding on small exposed area.

10 Caribou in hills just by Umiat.

Fair number were seen along Colville river from Umiat to coast. Feeding on "grassy" tundra all of which is exposed in the valley.

Groups were

6, 14 (2 calf), 15, 2, 5, 6. total = 48

all were still in winter pelage - appeared very light from air.

June 6 Caribou seen by Tom Myers on Colville Run

Caribou seen from Drew Point to POW B -

5 adults
1 Ad + calf
5 adults
15 adults + 9 new born calves.
9 ad. w 6 calves
10 " " 4 "
3 " " 2 "
3 " " 1 "
5 adults

Total 56 adults w 23 calves

May 20 Caribou on flight to Pitmegea River - T. Myers
30 miles N. Wainwright to Shell Cliffs on Ley C.

all Caribou seen in this stretch.

17 Aber
1959

Rangifer tarandus

3, 13, 12, 1, 8, 12

June 18 Saw 16 in late evening. All looked mangy - & still in winter coats, very light looking. No calves with this group.
Have seen 102 caribou in past couple days.

June 20 Getting more numerous. I saw a group of 16 on E side of river & 2 groups of 36 + 40± on W side. All look mangy. No calves seen, groups seem to be ♂♂ & ♀♀ & year old animals who are noticeably smaller than the others.

June 21 15 Caribou grazing along Sabal Stream beyond second ridge. 3 were bulls with antlers already large, the rest were cows, small bulls & a couple of yearlings - all where white - in winter pelage
6 Caribou, 3 of which were bulls, were in Loon marsh near Sabal stream on way in.

June 22 12 Caribou spent all afternoon sleeping & grazing on Bear mountain - gradually moving SE.
Herd of 28± on Wolverine Ridge moved gradually S & W during afternoon. Crossed ridge heading south.

June 24 Reference on Reindeer from Hank Childs.
Sdobnikov, 1935
Paper on Reindeer - in Russian. FAP has a translation, may be in reprint room UAF Grad Geology.

Mahan
1959

Rangifer tarandus

June 25 1000 to 1500 went by today in morning. I saw none upstream beyond willow creek. Saw 20 at the bend across from creek on way out + 47 in same area when I came back. All resting - some ~~lay~~ lying on side - few ~~grazing~~ in sedge.

June 26 Caribou thinly scattered about today.
56 on East side of River morning 5
Farmers mile
5-3 on West side in river bottom
220 on ~~outside~~ west side feeding down wolverine ridge toward river
22 resting on ridge on E side of Delta marsh.
150 on N. flank Bear Mt.
Some groups were moving W. along Bear Mt. Others moving E wards as mentioned above. Very leisurely - resting for most part.

July 19 Saw several Caribou yesterday, 2 across river afternoon. 3 across river in evening, 5 other on far ridge + 7 on distant ridge.
today, 2 on ridge across river, 2 in Loon Marsh. + 3 across river in marsh near mouth.
Group of 30 caribou headed S E across river in late afternoon.

Mahlen
1959

Rangifer tarandus

July 28 Four seen on flank of Bear Mt. One seen on E. side of mtn yesterday morning

July 30 11 Caribou crossed thru Loon mouth in morning. Heading SE.

Aug 2 1 caribou on 1 mile ridge in evening.

Aug 1 10 caribou seen in morning near Willow creek mouth moving SE.

2 Caribou seen on one mile ridge in evening.

Aug 3 4 caribou in morning up mtn near Willow Creek.

Aug 11 Flight from Putnegea to Barrow.

None until Wainright

200-300 seen from Wainright to the Kagvaa River. From here a gap of none caribou + then a group of 50 + another of 5 before we reached Lay C. From here in, none.

Sept 1-7 Pilots out several times hunting caribou with physiologists. Report caribou concentrated South + W. of Point Lay - moving W. - funneling between edge of foothills + ocean. At this rate should pass Lay A + Putnegea camp en masse.

7 8809